Hunter

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NOTES ON SITES OF HURON VILLAGES

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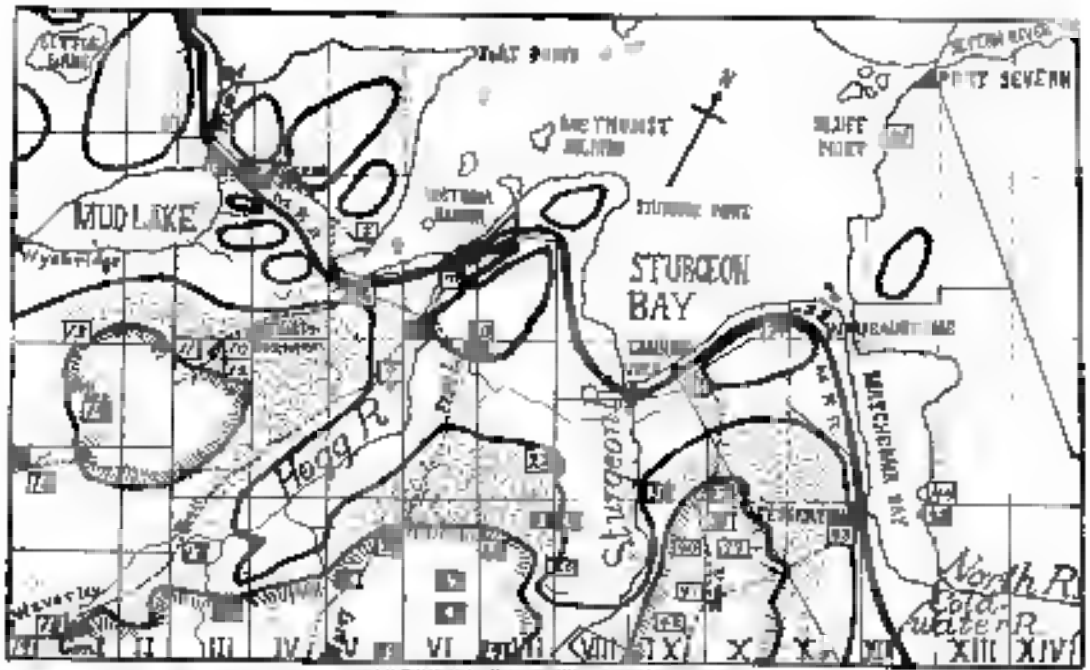
Notes on

SITES of HURON VILLAGES

IN THE TOWNSHIP OF TINY, SIMCOE COUNTY

by Andrew F Hunter, M A


MUD LAKE
STURGEON BAY
Hog R.
Sturgeon R.
PORT SEVERN
MATCHEDASH BAY
North R.
Cold water R.
I
II
III
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VII
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IX
X
XI
XII
XIII
XIV

[illegible]

SITES OF HURON VILLAGES

TOWNSHIP OF TAY (SIMCOE COUNTY)

BY ANDREW F. HUNTER, M.A.

[illegible] TO THE REPORT OF THE M[illegible] FOR 1902

[illegible]

PREFACE

[illegible] subjects of the following Report [illegible] appear necessary to change the plan adopted [illegible] my own [illegible] in the various departments of the Township of Tiny [illegible] the Educational Department it was [illegible] thought that the union [illegible] putting [illegible] notes on the [illegible] of [illegible] age to form one section, a continuation of the other, and [illegible] treated together by students. [illegible] Province. Separate copies of this Report of Tay [illegible] prepared. For the use of those who [illegible] my former report on the Township of Tiny

A. F. HUNTER.

Barrie, Ont., November 1890.

INTRODUCTION

Physical Features of Tay

Like the adjoining township of Tiny the surface of Tay consists of a series of parallel ridges with rivers between them. There is this difference however in Tay most of the ridges are scarcely noticeable on passing but in Tay only the ends are found. One of these ridges [illegible] Bay into Tiny the other two pass southward into Matchedash [illegible] I will call the former which lies between Otter and Hogg rivers, the Victoria Harbor ridge, because it runs into Victoria Harbor. The next one lying between Hogg and Sturgeon rivers, will be called the Vasey ridge from the name of the village upon it. And the most westerly ridge between Sturgeon and Cold water rivers will be named the Rosemount ridge, from the name of the schoolhouse on its summit. These parts of the township which lie east of Matchedash bay are rocky—Trenton limestone and Laurentian granite.

For showing the altitude of the land I know of no plan equal to mapping the abandoned beaches. This method has a very important advantage, a person can note by direct observation the lines of equal altitude in these extinct shorelines without going to the trouble of making a detailed survey by the use of levelling instruments. Accordingly, I have observed their positions throughout the township noting the farms on which they appear and I give the results of these observations on the accompanying map.

The highest of these old shorelines is the Algonquin beach which had an altitude of about 730 feet above the present level of Georgian Bay. It was a stupendous freak of Nature—an indelible mark on the face of the country representing the expenditure of a [illegible] of force by stormy waves in the removal and assortment of materials. The Algonquin Sea at first washed away vast [illegible] of movable material (clay, sand and gravel) from the exposed northerly ends of the ridges that large tracts of boulders were left. It picked the tops of the ridges as it were and left the waste. A large tract I think [illegible] on immediately south and east from Elliott's Corners, and similar tracts occur on the Vasey and Rosemount ridges. No Huron village sites occur on these quite stable stony tracts.

About 100 feet lower is the main beach of the Great Nipissing series about 630 feet above Georgian Bay. To give all four beaches

I am informed that [illegible] river is so called from an early Method of preparing it a Ojibways

of this Nipissing series would make a complicated heap and would involve endless and unnecessary work. So I have mapped only the most strongly marked one of the series. The name "Great Nipissing" has been given by good geese because the outlet of this great lake to the sea, before the birth of Niagara river was by the present and lesser Lake Nipissing and French river.

At the ends of the above mentioned ridges there were islands standing out from the mainland to the Great Nipissing sea or lake. One of the largest of these extinct islands lies in a south-easterly direction from the outlet of Hogg river and is a tract of isolated high ground covering an area of 500 acres or more. Before the forest was cleared away these extinct islands were separated from each other and from the ridges by difficult

The information as to the nearly of the highest ground by surrounding these references to the rock taken and beaches crossed merely on the case with which they gave the altitude of the said ground roughness. They said thus elucidate the physical features. They have no connection with Huron sea portion (except in so far as village sites are often found near the sprucy flint issue along these old lakes. The heavy covering one to the map denotes the Great Nipissing beach that will trace internally skirting the hills to the Algonquin.

The roads, also and road allowances are marked on the map so that the reader can judge [illegible] In that part of the township of Sunday where the east of Concessions One and Two the roads are only laid out at every fifth lot and are a chain and a quarter (100 chains). Two of the four Concessions are a chain and a quarter duej but those in the Second have been adopted of only one half of that amount. Concessions Four to Fourteen make up the New Survey. Those are the extent of concessions (all except two) and have roads at every fifth lot or one mile and were dug the spirit 000 rod). Bearing these measurements in mind the road may read by calculate any distance. The lots are numbered from the south to look old and new surveys. The corner corner of Township. From the map [illegible] will be found the Report of the Township

Altogether I will give a closer glance of forty six miles. The plan of proceeding will be to begin at Mud Lake and proceed anywhere by road easterly through the township.

THE VILLAGE SITES.

The village sites described are only those known to the writer up to date without any claim to completeness, which in the present state of the subject would be impossible. Much information will be

adoptions, these [illegible] be regarded as belonging to the [illegible] Huron period. Other evidence may have been gathered therefrom, but these are the outstanding. A rush [illegible] is made to most natural therefore to seek for the [illegible] of St. Louis and St. Ignace among these four. On the various points arising out of these questions however, it is not intended to offer any suggestions as anything more than possible conjectures.

One of the first persons to investigate the situations of the Jesuit missions appears to have been the Rev. F. Chauvin who visited the district in 1842. Some years later, in 1858, the Rev. Felix Martin also made a tour of exploration in Huronia. It will be most valuable in this connection, to quote from the brief account of this trip contained in a biographical sketch of this painstaking investigator.

"The interest of Father Martin as an antiquary was known to the men in the Government and the Hon. George E. Cartier entrusted him with a commission to explore on the spot, the site and the remains of the ancient Huron missions in Upper Canada near Georgian Bay. By this Father Martin found the traces of the ancient posts of the Jesuits in that country where they had so many martyrs. He collected many Indian relics, he afterwards made a work embellished with plans and drawings, the whole having been deposited at the seat of Government.

The next investigator was Dr. J. C. Taché who undertook some further explorations of Huronia at intervals of five years prior to 1865. Parkman in his works, has quoted these archæological researches of Taché and these are given wide currency to Taché's views of the positions of the mission sites.

It appears to have been Father Martin who fixed upon a village site on Fox's farm in Medonte township as that of St. Ignace and in this belief Dr. Taché afterwards examined the site somewhat minutely. This early decision as to what place was the scene of the torture of Brebeuf and his companion was received with acceptance through Parkman's publication of this as the true position without any doubt. But it is certainly incorrect, and the most informed students of the subject have refused to recognize the claims of Fox's farm on the distance from Ste. Marie [illegible] much greater than the written descriptions justify.

In Taché's time there were comparatively few sites known. Since then however, [illegible] of new knowledge as to [illegible] and a solution of the problem of finding St. Ignace as well as the other mission sites, has become possible. It may involve more labor than the first investigator anticipated but reliable conclusions have become more attainable. This chiefly lies to the fact that the greater part of Tay has been settled since Taché visited the district. The first settlers of the Vasey Ridge went there about thirty years ago. Those on the Hore-

[illegible] twenty-five years ago. We now learn from those [illegible] the Jesuits in the village after three. They had no pali[illegible] and accordingly St. Ignace was not one of the villages on these rolls. This name was also lost through the accidental use of Ducreux's map, which shows the St. Ignace of about 1640. For the purpose of clearly distinguishing these two places, it has been decided to call the one we are now writing the St. Ignace II.

Neither can Ducreux's map be taken as a guide for the St. Louis of 1648, as to show the position of the one of about 1640. Throughout the text of this report I have called the one of later date St. Louis II.

As regards the distribution of the other mission names as laid down by Ducreux, I am inclined to believe that each mission marked a district isolated by physical features and with these as bounds the villages in a group to be seen contemporary with each other, or to have been the same village at different periods, each group of villages so divided physically seems to have had its mission. The Rosemount Ridge, for example would naturally be the district of one of the missions marked St. Jean and St. Joachim.

The Forest Trails.

The physical features also govern the courses of the forest trails which so far as I have located them, are shown by the dotted curving lines on the map. As one may also see from the map the continuous high ground, along which trails could be made, makes an apparent [illegible] Georgian Bay [illegible] Toronto direct. Also then was the commercial centre of the Hurons, as it has also been of later Algonquins. In other words the physical features of the district were such that Victoria Harbor became naturally the focus as centre of population, the trails radiating from the head of the harbor in several directions and keeping to the higher ground. It appears to have been the early centre, the heart of the country that was overthrown in 1649 otherwise the Hurons would not have so precipitately deserted the country after the capture of only two of their villages, had those villages been of the ordinary unfortified kinds.

Amongst the results expected from the publication of this report it is hoped to correct a number of popular errors and wrong impressions that are widely prevalent in the territory with which we have dealt. There is, of course, the usual traditions of buried treasures [illegible] ways to be found in connection with historic reports, and in this county it is even more rife than elsewhere. Many intelligent perso[illegible]

are impressed with the idea that treasures have been buried at these historic places whereas in reality there is nothing more precious to be found than chips of old brass kettles or worn out tomahawks. But the belief in treasures is so deeply rooted and in a few places it even rankles in reticence where information is sought and thus obstructs the course of judicious scientific enquiry. As a rule however the farmers of Tiny are elsewhere have been extremely courteous while I was prosecuting my enquiries and it is hoped that the report will further demonstrate their zeal to observe closely the historic remains of their respective neighborhoods.

Of wild pre-historic is the erroneous opinion that Fox's farm at Ste Marie has the site of St. Ignace II where the two early missionaries were tortured to death by the Iroquois. Father Chaudlos earlier mission of St. Ignace on Sturgeon River for St. Ignace has almost been lost sight of in the exploitation of the Fox farm tenancy. But the theory of Vincent Mathieu as the site of St. Louis still lingers and with a slight change of location as the site of St. Louis.

The regarding of the human bones found at the site on Sturgeon River as the remains of Brebeuf and Lalemant, as an opinion still current with a few of the older persons. But the opinion that Ste Marie on the east side of Matchedash Bay was formerly French structures is now almost absolute. Such errors as these it is hoped will be finally eradicated by the perusal of these lines.

DESCRIPTIONS OF THE VILLAGE SITES ETC

I. Sites in Tiny.

On the west side of lot 101 concession E (Samuel D. Frazer's property) Huron camps have been found scattered over about three acres. Mr. Frazer has collected since 1898, and has become so absorbed in the pursuit that he personally digs as well as collects. He has had several helpers from time to time. When the land was cleared the corduroy work of the early days could be seen. Apart on the township of Tiny page 8 Rev. J. Lindsay Hogg has been found a few chert implements among which was a sacrificial stone antler pick and celts. He has also a fine collection of pottery fragments which were presented by Mr. Frazer to the Provincial Museum, and as No. 18702 in the archæological collection. Mr. Frazer has befriended the science of archæology in the vicinity more especially by the presentation to the museum of a small collection of relics found in the neighborhood. The position

[illegible] indicates the direction taken by the final that [illegible] from Ste. Marie.

2. Ste. Marie on the Wye

The ruins of Ste. Marie, the fortified [illegible] held by the Jesuits c 1639 and occupied by them for ten years may be seen on the [illegible] 16 concession on the [illegible] It was a stone fort and as the most noteworthy object of historic interest in Muskoka, though on the present [illegible] of the [illegible] it can be called only a ruin of a cairn.

[illegible]

While [illegible] these notes [illegible] were [illegible] by Mr. Bolger Hindle [illegible] the rector of the Church of Ste. Marie [illegible] Rev. Geo. Hall [illegible] With the same [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

The auth[illegible] sm that is wor[illegible] d
ms Attent co[illegible] [illegible]stance of th Rank
of a boat w[illegible] [illegible] n yards to inner [illegible] of
the work material of he[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [

canal is not continued in the diagram beyond the stonework but some have observed this to be continued in a northeasterly direction to Mud Lake thus giving double access for water coming into the trenches. In the event of a siege, if one course should be stopped the other might be kept open.

As every observer will invariably record features that do not strike another observer acting independently it may be interesting to compare Mr Hale's plan with one made by Peter Burnet P. L. Surveyor who sketched the place in 1870. The latter plan which also belongs to Mr Edgar Hallon includes all the environs on the west half of lot 18, but we reproduce therefrom only the Fortification itself.

It is not my intention to give an extended description of the fort to be as it has often been inscribed in accessible books. I will add a few bibliographical notes for the guidance of those readers who may wish to pursue the subject further. The carefully prepared excerpt from the Rev. Felix Martin in his Life of Jogues is worthy of the reader's attention as he visited the place in 1858 when the fort was in a more complete condition than it is at present.

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Charlevoix, Francois X. de. History and general description of New France.

In Book VII. there is a description of Ste. Marie.

Harvey Arthur and Alan Macdougall. Forty-three Annual Report of the Canada Institute. Transactions, 4th series, Vol. 3 1892,

A reference to the excursion made to Ste. Marie on Sept. 28, 1891 mentions the features of the fort recognized on that occasion including the "water gate

Hunter A. F. Note on Ste. Marie on the Wye. [Morrows' Relations of the Jesuit Fathers (R. G. Thwaites, Editor), pages 269 Vol. 19 with sketch map at page 270].

Lalemant, Jerome. Relation de ce qui s'est passé en la mission des Hurons, (June 1638 to June 1640).

Chap. IV. De la residence faite à Ste. Marie.

Martin, Rev Felix. Life of Jogues. Appendix A. contains carefully written description of Ste. Marie which Father Martin visited in 1855.

Parkman Francis. Jesuits in North America.

Chap. 25 there is a slightly different description of Ste. Marie.

3. John McDermott's

Remains of a fine compact house have been found on the northwest corner of John McDermott's farm (the west half of Lot 10, concession 4. The indications are that there was a small village, having no palisades,—the few scattered lodges having been placed there because of convenience. The position shows the probable route taken by the Huron trail but led from Ste. Marie eastward Thunday along the south edge of extensive elevated ground (situated at the extreme Great Nipissing Lake) the district immediately south of the trail having been occupied in Huron times by hummocks surrounded with thickets and by small streams flowing into Mud Lake, the ground there being accordingly unsuitable for travelling.

4. The Probable Site of St Louis II

At another part of Mr McDermott's farm (of 14 concession 4 there was a number of gentle undulation of blackened soil and ashes mixed with refuse. These were near the line between the west and east halves of the lot a little way into the east half. It was almost a hill almost if not quite surrounded by low ground and on account of occupying such a position was evidently *prima facie* that it had been palisaded. From this place to Ste. Marie the distance is about a mile. Just west of the site rise some springs from which the

village had been plentifully supplied with [illegible] water. One morning while ploughing on the site a few years ago [illegible] found an earthen pot which broke on being [illegible] (to boil) and in it were [illegible] bones. Northward from the village there was a graveyard containing a few burials which, so far as observed, were of the isolated or single type. The skeleton of a person of very large proportions was found among these. Angus McDermott, a brother of the landowner counted twenty lodges of the size, the subsoil of [illegible] [illegible] in some places as much as three feet in thickness.

It is probable the site is that of St. Louis II. The second village also mentioned by the Iroquois in March 1649 and the one at which the Jesuit missionaries Brebeuf and Lalemant, were captured, being led thence to St Ignace where they were put to death. Among the considerations that lead up to this conclusion are the following:—

(a) The site estimated by Mr McDermott for twenty lodges (excluding the usual number of two or three fortified lodges which would be nearly the size of St Louis I recorded by the Rev Père Ragueneau. According to that chronicler, about 500 Hurons had fortified the place at the first alarm [illegible] 80 warriors to fight the Iroquois.

(b) It was on the only route from Ste Marie eastward to Penetanguishene Harbor the commercial centre of the Hurons hereabout. As we [illegible] on the [illegible] of the preceding site, the ground immediately south of this trail was not suitable for travelling and [illegible] has been [illegible] of [illegible] or trails.

(c) The [illegible] found at this [illegible] are of such kinds as to show that [illegible] was a village of the very latest period of the Huron occupation [illegible] date at. The [illegible] pottery also tends to prove the same [illegible] further back in the country the Huron villages of earlier date would be [illegible].

Of all the fortified villages belonging to the [illegible] yet found, this is the nearest to Ste Marie.

(d) As to the distance of St Louis II from Ste Marie a little discrepancy exists in the evidence contained by the records concerned. Ragueneau gives us the distance as not more than a league (two miles and a half) but Regnaut explicitly makes it much less. The latter writes as the name St Ignace was applied to the mission among all those villages as Ragueneau says for the village to which the two missionaries had set out and does not mention the name St Louis. He gives the distance as a short quarter of a league from Ste Marie. The site under consideration, therefore, is not at variance with the conditions presented by either writer.

(e) Whatever [illegible], it is a fact that St Louis II could be seen from Ste Marie as all the writers agree in stating that those in the

fort could see the burning of the village. This furnishes a well-authenticated test. From observations made upon the ground I found that, looking eastward from Ste. Marie the only place where spectators could see a fire in the distance was at the very site. A small tract of elevated ground, running out of evergreen thickets closes the view from Ste. Marie toward the southeast, and disqualifies the sites farther along the trail at the head of Victoria Harbor from being the place we are seeking. It is quite true that, in a southerly direction had there been a conflagration at site No. 10 on the high ground of the interior it might have been seen from Ste. Marie across the edge of Mud Lake; but No. 10 as well as the adjacent sites Nos. 9 and 12 connected with it, although regarded by some as St. Louis II have failed to satisfy other conditions.

The discussion of St Louis II would be incomplete without some reference to the views held by others in regard to its position.

Father Chaumonot who visited the locality in 1648 appears to have been the first to form any opinion on the subject. A fishing village at the mouth of Hogg River (No. 7) the landing place for the villages of the interior was the only site then known to the neighborhood and he fixed upon it as the site of St. Louis II. Father Martin and other engineers followed him in holding this opinion. This, however was also rejected by Shea and Kip after the surgeon of Hennepin's party who as they failed to perceive shewed the earliest position of St Louis as we have already pointed out in the introduction.

Others have regarded the site No. 10 as the place. This opinion however seems to have been the result of the finding of a very large hatchet there, suggesting to the popular mind that a massacre had taken place, and recalling the fight at St. Louis II. To those who understand how a hatchet was formed among the Hurons viz. by the mere relation of human bones for a period of several years, the finding of this type was exactly the opposite of a massacre. In fact it furnishes a good proof that the site was occupied in time of peace and was not St Louis II. In other respects also, the site forbids the belief that it was the captured village.

Again, the site on the Evans farm (No. 8) has presented some probable indications, and the reader is referred to our description of it for its particulars. But a strong objection to the Evans site has been that it was hidden from Ste. Marie behind some high ground.

5. Nets.

On the west side of Victoria Harbor some aboriginal remains have been found on lot 14, concession 5. These remains consisted of two

...ened pottery fragments and other relics in rubbish. Many caches of empty pits are at the site. There is also a patch of second-growth trees—what is called an "Indian clearing" but this phenomenon may be partly due to the beds of gravel so much of which is to be found there that the Midland Railway has an extensive "Gravel Pit" near it. But it may also be at least partly due to actual clearing as the ancestors of some of the present Ojibway Indians at Christian Island are said to have grown their corn at this place, and lived here. It must also have been a landing place for the earlier Huron Indians.

6. EVANS

A Huron village site exists on the Evans farm the west half of lot 12 concession 6, at a short distance from the shore of Victoria Harbour and on the elevated ground of an old lake terrace. It is now almost obliterated by the farm buildings orchard and garden, and its original appearance when the ground was new is difficult to get correctly recorded. But the late Wm Evans who first settled this place and whose family still occupies it gave Mr A. C. Osborne an account of what he found and to Mr Osborne I am indebted for the following description — Mr Evans built his log house many years ago, and in digging the cellar found about six feet of ashes. Large chunks of cherry trees, resembling corn dog-pens in bark charred corn-cobs, quantities large numbers of tomahawks, knives, stone implements, and relics of human burials were also found. The site is admirably adapted for defence on one side only.

From the county evidence that has come before me I have been able to conclude that this village although occupied during the time of the French it where it did not belong to the very latest period. It is not at Ste Marie and accordingly cannot be regarded as St Louis II because although in many of its details a large resemblance may be spectators at Ste Marie.

Also it was to the south west of this village site the ground makes another abrupt rise, the faces of the steep hill being covered with rocky patches. On this high plateau was the corn patch belonging to the village. This is situated on the northwest quarter of lot 11. Wm. Wright on the owner has found many arrowheads on his land. There is also one spot a near from the high ground, overlooking Victoria Harbour and the more flats at its south.

7. VENT'S

At the mouth of Hogg I here there is the site of a large occupied, both by Hurons as well as by Algonquins of later times as the

shore of Victoria Harbour was a favourite resort of Indians until within recent years. Its position at the end of a trail shows that it was a fishing village and a port of entry for the villages of the interior. It is situated on the east bank of the river on lot 14, concession 6, (Geo. West, map). Pottery fragments were ploughed up here and other relics including two double-barred crosses, a large one and a small one. The crosses were found many years ago by one James Mahoney while ploughing, for the occupant of that time, James Coyle, and were presented to the Rev. Father Chaumet of Penetanguishene. The site belonged to the earliest Huron period as the pottery fragments go to show, but the double-barred crosses had a more recent origin, probably in the eighteenth century.

The site has acquired some importance from the fact that it was known as early as 1642 when the Rev. Father P. Chaumile, S.J. applied it in the belief that it was St. Louis II. This was an erroneous view as we have elsewhere said but it was evidently due to the fact that there was no other site then known and to the surveyor of Duc de Montmagny a guide for the position of the missions in 1648. It was however a close approximation to the true position as the reader may infer from the facts as now understood.

By following the trail up the west bank of the river a little way, the spot with Father Chaumont found was marked with Indian blazes. [illegible] a large elm was marked with several parallel [illegible] of the trail [illegible] the [illegible] Indian [illegible] out of 12 stones [illegible] figures of the next era.

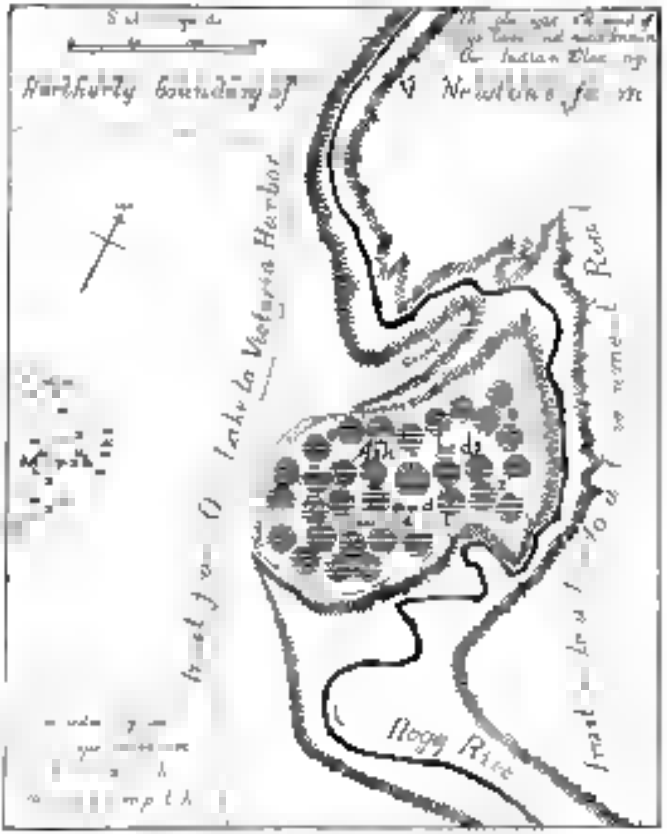
It may be of some interest to add that Father Chaumont's visit was early in the position to Hogg River [illegible] the Indian clearing [illegible] the earliest. He found it to be on course of settlers on [illegible] the measures of the early missionaries.

8. The Site of St. Louis II.

Through the farm of Chas. E. Newton Esq. the west-most half of lot 10 in concession 6, the Hogg River has cut a number of pot holes in the old rock bed, depths ranging from fifteen to twenty feet. In this part of its course the river makes a loop resembling the letter U which was once an ideal spot for a village requiring means of defence.

Hurons selected for one of their villages this plot of ground containing four or five acres, on the bend of the river. This ground is covered with ashheds and blackened soil mixed with refuse. The latter consisted of bone tools, awls, pieces of metal probably cut out of worn-out brass kettles, and pottery fragments in endless quan-

[illegible] flint nodules show that the site was one of those occupied [illegible] very ancient period of the Hut occupation of the district [illegible] pit sections at the site and a pottery just south of it [illegible] a fair good quality for primitive work. Mr Newton has experimented successfully with the clay from the same clay



What appears to be a [illegible] two village earthwork occurs near the house of Wm Bennett on but [illegible] only [illegible] extended as far north as the site itself though the cultivated ground and lungut shows traces of the earthwork. From this site to Ste Marie the distance 3½ miles.

A trail comes from the lake by the way of Waverley, and just before reaching this place is divided into two strands, one passing down each side of the river. These meet again at the Indian Clearing on lot 12 which was mentioned in connection with the last site. The trail down the east side as far as the Indian Clearing, and thence to the mouth of the river was widened many years ago into a clove improvement road now disused.

It is probable the so-called Indian Clearing was due to the gravelly soil, which would not permit of the growth of trees, rather than to actual clearing by the aborigines. But, whatever its origin it was certainly a resort of the Indians, the fork in the trail having been here. These trails were used by them until recent years when the erection of fences obstructed their course.

The plot of ground in the bowl of the river has been called the 'Indian Field' for many years but by whom it was so named is not known to Mr Newton. Nor has any enquiry so far elicited any explanation of the name, unless it became connected with the place from the visit of Rev P Chazelle, S.J., to the neighborhood in 1851 as described in the account of the last mentioned site. It is not evident, however that he visited this plot on the west side of the river.

This spot has also the usual traditions of burial ceremonies of even greater numbers than elsewhere if that were possible. Thus the Rev J H McCollum rector of St. Thomas Township, who was here at the opening of the Anglican church in 1820 makes reference to these trail forks in his account of the place as follows. Quoted from Churchmans:—

> This happy valley was once the scene of terrible carnage between the Hurons and the savage Iroquois and in the valley the early missionaries to these unhappy red men buried the sacred vessels of their church to save them from destruction. The place is known as the Jesuits Meadow to this day.

It is probable that site is the previous burial was St Ignace II that Huron village captured by the Iroquois in the early morning of March 16 1649 and the place to which Brebeuf and Lalemant were brought, a few hours later and there tortured to death. Its distance from Ste. Marie as recorded pretty well with the records, all the writers agree, that it was less than two leagues (five miles) and a long league from St. Louis, which in my opinion, was the site at McDermott's (No. 4).

But the strongest evidence is in the configuration of the ground. Rev P Ragueneau's account of the place (Relations 1648) suggests

pose of the village and its surroundings, and tells us beforehand of what appearances we may expect to find there. He says —

It was surrounded by a palisade of poles from fifteen to twenty feet high and by a deep trench (fosse), with which Nature had powerfully strengthened the place on three sides; a small space alone remaining weaker than the others. It was through that part the enemy forced his entrance.

While this description of St. Ignace II will suit, in some measure, almost any palisaded site, it seems there was as a rule placed on a spur of land the completeness of the fortification effected by Nature in this case, was such as to attract the attention of the chronicler who wrote the description just quoted. After a diligent search through the area of the district, I can find none that so exactly agrees with this description of St. Ignace II as this site on Mr. Newcomb's farm.

9 Hutchinson's and Taylor's.

A village area on the farm of John Hutchinson, the east half of lot 10, concession 6, extends into the adjoining farm of Levi Taylor. It is in a field of twelve acres at the south side of Mr. Hutchinson's farm. In this field these camps chiefly show, the fortified ditch against the face of which the abandoned beaches of the Great Nipissing Lake are strongly marked. There is nothing in the appearance of these straggling camps to indicate that they had been palisaded. The village was particularly supplied with water, a spring house just north of what was the most thickly populated ground. Sand Creek and the Hagg Rivers is divided into two parts at the front of the farm, a comparatively large stream flowing near the east. The sandbanks have yielded the usual relics. An engraving, of clay pipes found upon Levi Taylor's farm, a reproduction here from the Archæological Report for 1897-8 page 19. Some curiously decorated pipes have been found among the remains, and quaint little were made when this and what lived put on their best relation. An aggregate of more than a dozen stone tomahawks have at various times been found by Mr. Hutchinson and his family.

A large pit was discovered in the year 1879 on lot 9 (Levi Taylor's) near the boundary line of Mr. Hutchinson's farm. It measured about twelve feet in diameter and the deposit of human bones went to a depth of about six feet below the level of the surrounding ground. Deducting two feet for the vacancy at the top of the pit caused by sinkage leaves the thickness of the deposit at about four feet. The bones pit has been filled in and is now ploughed over. A short account

of it appeared at the time it was found, in the *Globe* of September 3, 1878 and (his was reprinted (though the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

10. Jones Hovenden's

A site on lot 10, concession 4, at which [illegible] has been found has attained to more than ordinary note. So many persons have seen or heard of one or the other of the finds made here and mention is so frequent, that it has become the most celebrated among the many interesting sites of the district—at least that is perhaps also partly due to the great value of some of the finds. It has been stated to myself that the first pit was examined by the late Dr Tache during the explorations of the remains of Hochelaga. Whether this statement is correct or not which we have no means of knowing because Tache's work is entirely unpublished) one of the pits was certainly known as an ash dump. It was then described as Essington's because that was the name of the first settler now in, though it was not located on his farm. It appears to have been named the Lake [illegible] alleged visit [illegible] that another large deposit was discovered near the first, the discovery [illegible] taking place in 1878. It attracted some attention in the newspapers of the time and one of the paragraphs from the Oakville *Register* Nov 1 1878 we give here with [illegible]—

A large pit [illegible] has lately been discovered on Lieut Mr [illegible] farm near Wyebridge. On a cursory appearance were [illegible] of about two thousand pounds, besides brass kettles, [illegible] pipes [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] supposed to be in the vicinity [illegible] old Jesuit fort St. Louis, where in 1649 there was a terrific struggle between the now almost extinct Hurons and the Iroquois.

The skull [illegible] has several bullet marks on it & have been arranged [illegible] rows. Among the articles found in it were a block of copper some [illegible] kettles and locks of human hair. I visited this famous site on July 7 1899, and inspected the pit just described. It has a diameter of twenty feet and is situated on the south east quarter of lot 10, [illegible] owner being John Hough[illegible]

What was described as [illegible] skull was found [illegible] one of the pots (probably the first one) [illegible] wrapped in fur and placed in a copper kettle, the [illegible] iron which had protected the [illegible] remains from decay. But this may have been only part of a [illegible] as descriptions are sometimes unintentionally distorted even by eye-witnesses. It is not improbable that it was the specimen that ultimately found its way into Dr Hewitson's collection, and is [illegible] mounted Forearm and hand of a child from a Sepulchral Pit

There was a corduroy road through the site a portion of which may still be seen in the woods near at hand. There was a trail from here to [illegible] Harbor and if there was another trail in summer and spring in

a direct line to Ste Marie, the only possible route would be nearly where the fourth concession line is now located and would cross at least three overgrown thickets

It will be observed that the writer of this paragraph quoted above gives credence to the view that the site under consideration was that of the mission of St Louis II and the late Rev J W Annis, a Methodist minister who devoted some attention to the Huron sites held the same opinion I am inclined however to regard this place as the so marked Kaotia on Lucrecen's map And as a village had to be moved for sanitary reasons about every ten years, the two adjacent sites (Nos 11 and 12) would probably indicate the same village at different periods of its existence

11 Whether the carvings of the site just described are situated near the campsite, or whether the marks of habitation there are only those incidental to the campsite is not yet clear It is established beyond doubt, however, that many artifacts occur on the west half of lot 10 concession 8 Wm Hunter the tenant has found many pottery fragments, paper stone axes and one iron tomahawk, the latter being numerous

12. On the east half of lot 9 concession 8, there is a village site that shows some evidence of fortification It is situated on the level top of a hill or spur of high ground and was probably palisaded Ashbeds are numerous and there was a refuse heap or mound in rear of which the usual relics have been found The lot is owned by J D Carscadden Elliott's Corners, and occupied by the family of Sylvester Campbell Midland

13. A village site occurs on the east half of lot 91 concession 1 Cornelius McCarthy an early settler in this district and the first person to settle upon this lot, being still the owner Stone axes, iron tomahawks tobacco pipes, pottery fragments and other relics have been found at this site which was located at natural springs of water

14. On lot 87 (east half), concession 1 a village site is met with also a beneset and ten or more graves or small beneats These were opened chiefly during the time of occupation of the late Anthony Letanville, who was the owner of the farm for many years Prof Henry Montgomery (now at Trinity University Toronto) writes as follows of a relic found here The piece of large copper kettle, with beaver claw adhering to it, and which I donated to the University (of Toronto), was taken from an ossuary on Letanville's place. This relic is No. 336 of the University collection. The village site covers about three acres, and springs rise at it, uniting and flowing into the Wye

of land fourteen

ghbors Thos Mc

8. A village of considerable size was situated on the
west junction of lot 77 concession 1 [illegible] The
present owner but many remains were found on the
of Robert Cranmer, the first occupant. Two fire
mounds were formerly to be seen showing that the
age had been a permanent one. As the [illegible]
was [illegible] but [illegible] they do not now appear. [illegible]
to a hawk stone hammer, pottery [illegible] pipes,
[illegible] stone [illegible] were found on the [illegible] to Hogg River just beyond the
[illegible] on lot 77

9. Many relics have been picked up on the Hamilton Junction
lot 76, concession 1. These included iron tomahawks, stone axes and
pottery fragments indicating the occurrence of Huron camps. But
whether these were outlying habitations of the last mentioned village
site (No. 18) or a distant site altogether I have not been able to
decide. When the land was cleared corn hills were to be seen on the
west part of this farm. In connection with the great abundance of

Huron corn patches mentioned so frequently in these notes I have observed that Indian corn at the present day matures well and grows superbly on the fine sandy loams of this locality.

A number other sites may in the immediate neighbourhood of the Batemans farm, but just beyond the boundaries of Tay township. It is not our intention therefore, to take notice of them here. But the occurrence at some camps where many interesting relics have been found may be mentioned in passing. These are on lot 76, concession 1 Tiny, the farm formerly occupied by the Bell family. A finely carved pipe, bearing a representation of what was probably intended for a bear, was among the relics found.

On the north-east bank of Hogg River and standing out boldly above the level of high ground on which most Huron sites are met with, undoubtedly Huron in their origin. One of these is on the west half of lot 11 [illegible] occupied by Joseph Kelly. On this farm and next the river bank considerable, there is a piece of land where no large trees had grown in the forest that formerly covered the place. In fact just such a level patch as we found at No. 8. Some persons supposed that this also was an Indian old camp, but in reality it was merely a gravelly knoll where the soil was unfavorable to the growth of large trees. [illegible] Huron [illegible] to the north-west across the several concessions [illegible] to the [illegible] Kelly's land [illegible] Ontario Huron [illegible] found [illegible] corn-cob-like, [illegible] pots, and [illegible] fragments of earthen pots. Where the concession [illegible] to Lake Simcoe all many of these fragments [illegible] Huron occupied an [illegible] high ground [illegible] the [illegible] is not compact [illegible] like [illegible] pots that [illegible] ever [illegible] therefore concluded that although the village was [illegible] the time of French [illegible] (as the former [illegible] was [illegible] to latest [illegible] of this period.

2 On the next [illegible] southward but separated from [illegible] by the slightly higher ground just mentioned [illegible] important [illegible] have been found. It is situated [illegible] the north-east quarter of lot 10 concession 6 (Edward Crooks, owner) but [illegible] the portion of the south-east quarter of the same lot (Watson Crooks owner). Its position is on a high terrace with low ground along the south. The remains have been found chiefly at the brows of the

[illegible] dwelling houses and outbuildings [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

20 Another village seems on the road of Andrew Brown west half of lot 4 concession 7 A spring issues near this site and leads to the Musquash River The occupants have found stone axes or tomahawks rocks and other relics Large numbers of French iron tomahawks have been found repeatedly during the years of the first settlement of this Island It is related how the roof of his shanty was the receptacle for these relics and was soon thereby covered with them fifty or more lying upon it at one time Some scattered pieces similar to these have been found on the opposite farm to west in concession four

27 When the east half of lot 3 concession 6 was cleared about thirty years ago the first settler upon it—Matthew Campbell—found on his ploughing many tomahawks indicating the site of another village A few were also found on the farm of his brother the late John Campbell across the road but not in sufficient numbers to indicate any site William Albert Campbell a son of the first settler now occupies lot 3 in concession Three lower ground on the rear of the farm where water could be had the frontage flowing toward Hungry River

28 Following the same concession line southward we finds the site of another village on the next farm east half of lot 2 concession 6 The owner Hector McLeod found the camps situated in the southwest part of his farm and they were strewn with various relics, such as pottery fragments pipes tomahawks etc Thomas Mc was found a large European bone which he sold to the museum It is a large bone grave head with lines of red white and blue in a scallop pattern The waterfrontage at this place runs southward and then around to Mogg s creek passing westward about 25 rods Medonte Township is not large in comparison with others

29 On the west half of lot 1 same con on 7 (John A Swan owns on a rather Traces of it were formerly quite distinct on the high ground behind the farm house and many relics of the usual kinds were found at various times—stone axes tomahawks, tobacco pipes (both clay and stone) and pottery fragments Mr Swan settled here in 1870 and in the early years of his occupation ours h is were still visible west of the camps but these hills have been obliterated by frequent ploughing In connection with this site it should be mentioned that a large bunep s was discovered a the early 80s on adjoining on the town line in the township of Medonte It is not positively known whether this bunepit was connected with the site now the mentioned further on but it is not too far from this and may have belonged to it, being only about seventy rods distant from the one in front of Mr Swan s residence

30. There is a 90-acre lot, formerly James Russell east half of lot 4 concession 5 and some relics of the usual kinds have been found at it, but it appears to have been small in comparison with others. There was a patch of cornhills west of, and probably used by the inhabitants of this site on the farm of Wm Russell, west half of lot 3 concession 6, though these could be have been almost obliterated by cultivation.

31. The remains of a Huron village, the inhabitants of which appear to have used the same position for several years, have been found upon the west half of lot 3, concession 5. The first settler on the farm, Robert Webb, came in 1825 and remained on it until about twelve years ago. As he was a close observer Besides having resided here so long our information in regard to the site is fuller than in many other cases. A noteworthy feature was the finding of a cache or cache-pit filled with corn. The grains were as black as charcoal and the appearance was that they had been charred or roasted. But their black color doubtless arose merely from their great age, 250 years or more being sufficient to carbonize any kind of seed. The discovery of the corn is confirmed by Hector McLeod who observed it while ploughing. The amount was estimated at more than two bushels. In the south of the site many cornhills were visible when they cleared the land. Beside the village a human skeleton was found buried. Among the relics found were coloured pipes of various kinds, some with human faces stone axes, iron tomahawks and knives, pipes [illegible] were kept as a grave ornament. Since Mr Webb retired from the farm several persons have collected upon it, either as owners or tenants. Among these were Matthew Vasey and Wm. Wilder, the present owner is George James. During their respective terms of occupancy some relics were also found. John Ashley Earle, who taught at Russell school house in the neighborhood frequently searched over for relics. He writes of the workmanship of the specimens as follows. The pottery fragments were nearly all more or less ornamented, the carving of course being of a somewhat rude type. The pipes showed a great deal of [illegible] the part of the mouth piece were wrought in a variety of forms. In some instances they took the form of the head of some animal or bird. One pipe stem, slightly, from its appearance must have been formed by drilling a hole right through an ordinary stone. A pipe bowl formed out of a common stone, also two inches and a half in diameter had on either side of the bowl a head of an animal. Mr Earle picked up in many [illegible] pieces of sheet metal [illegible] iron brass kettles. He says these were to be found in all parts of the field. It would appear that when the kettles obtained from the French traders became useless from having holes in them, the

flakes cut them up by some means into chips and used the points as arrowheads knives etc. As soon after village sites of the interpreted French occupation, the ground is also strewn with these stone chips. In order to examine its position I visited this site on June 5th 1950, and made a diagram of it. The usual fragments of pottery and clam shells were to be seen. The ashberk were most numerous at the head of a small ravine the abrupt descent to which is about 30 feet and here the inhabitants found their supply of fresh water in spring. Passing from this region the ground rises gently through the field which contains about 12 acres but is to all appearance with no bed. There is nothing in its situation to lead one to believe the village had been palisaded. When the Hurons built a village for defence it was usual to select a place where Nature assisted. But here Nature forsakes us and rather the opposite. So it is not probable that palisades will be found. A trail has always existed here leading past site No. 30.

32 On the east half of lot 1 concession 5 there is a site where the usual relics—pottery fragments pipes, bone tomahawks, stone axes, etc.—have been found. Robert Hall the owner has lived here since 1873 and he has informed me that before the land was cultivated he could see the ashhills that were used by the Huron in the construction of the village.

33 A small site occurs on the east half of lot 2 concession 8. It was formerly owned and cleared by John Hunter, who died about one to 1870 various relics underlying rock tomahawks, Another subsequent owners was Michael Ryan but it is presently occupied by Harris Jessett.

34 Various remains, found beside the above at a spot just west of Wanbaushene, indicate the position of what was formerly a favourite resort of the aborigines in some desirable numbers. It appears to be situated upon lot 11 concession 10 the area of about one acre is the richest of ground in which remains have been found. The pate of the second growth trees now was believed to grow where there had once an Indian clearing but as in many other cases it may be more correctly explained by the presence of graves by soil. It was formerly a favourite resort for relic seekers some of whom dug into Indian graves of which some exist here. The graves thus molested were not common but single burials. Some iron tomahawks and gun barrels have been found the latter tending to show that the site was occupied in the eighteenth century by Algonquins. But whether it was a working place of the Hurons in case to use a plot yet evident

15 Rattler, sloop, at Tanner's Mill (also named at Pomeroy's) [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

recent times has added an antiquarian setting to the place. They found there the bones of two persons, whose tradition has erroneously regarded as those of Brebeuf and Lallemant, forgetful of the fact that their bones were found by the searching party from Ste Marie in 1649 and taken to Quebec.

37. Passing to the high ground east of the Sturgeon River one finds the most northerly site of the group on the land of Frank Joseph, the west half of lot 6 concession 10. Here on a patch of ground cultivated only during the past two seasons, they have found stone discs an iron tomahawk a tobacco pipe and some fragments of deer bones.

38. House sublots 1 Huron camps are met with on the farm of Alex. Begg the west half of lot 5, concession 10. They have found pottery shreds pipes stone axes and numbers of iron tomahawks southwest of the site, which is not large there is a small huckleberry marsh. It is on the opposite side of the road on lot 4, but near the site.

39. A site of moderate dimensions occurs on the northeast quarter of lot 4, concession 10,—the farm of James Stewart. On a patch of high ground toward the centre of the farm they have found pottery fragments, iron knives, iron tomahawks etc. Similar relics have been found on the adjoining fifty-acre farm or southwest quarter of the same lot 4, which is cultivated by Mr. Begg and also a few on the east half owned and occupied by Robert C. Stewart.

40. Across the road on the east half of lot 4, concession 9, James Paden the owner has found iron tomahawks, pottery fragments, stone sublabds and patches blackened by the old camp fires. These occur on the highest ground—a large knoll at the rear of the farm.

41. A small site occurs on the east end of lot 3 concession 9 in the extreme southeast corner. The usual relics have been found and a part of the site extends into the adjoining land of Joseph Greaves, where a few have found the kinds of relics met looked under the last site, besides stone axes. On the north side this village was near an old huckleberry marsh.

42. Another site but not from the one last mentioned, is on the farm of Joseph Greaves the east half of lot 3, concession 8. Mr. Greaves has lived on this farm for 25 years and has frequently found at the rear of it the usual remains of camps and the same kinds of relics as occur at the other villages of this group.

It will be observed that the six preceding sites on the Escuminac Ridge are small there being probably not more than a dozen graves in any of them; and there are no hemispits associated with them. But on this same high ridge in Medonte township about a mile south of the Tay townline, some hemispits have been found at larger villages. It is but natural to suppose that as regards Feasts of the Dead and the formation of hemispits among the Rock Nation or Arendarronons the small outlying villages of this group would be tributary or subordinate to the larger villages situated further south in Medonte. The position of St. Joachim was perhaps in this group of smaller villages.

43. At a short distance from the shore of Matchedash Bay, near Fesserton, many relics of the aborigines have been found. These were most frequently met with upon rising ground on the farm of George Lamb lot 5 concession 12 and also on lot 4. Villages situated the tide near the shores of the large lakes usually yield relics which have undoubtedly belonged to Algonquian of a period subsequent to the Hurons. But in the present instances if the remains were those of Algonquins, they must have belonged to an early period—before the raiders had supplied them with kettles for cooking purposes—as amply testified by the fragments of pottery pots made from baked clay commonly found on Huronian sites, and mentioned here. At the projection of land known as Sharon Point some refuse bones were formerly to be seen.

44. On the opposite horn of Matchedash Bay at Hank's Point on lot 5 concession 14 north remains have been found. There, by the shore were also found a few graves (single burials) in which the skeletons had been buried in a crouching position. One of the skeletons was decked with a large medal, glass beads, and other trinkets. Some dug cedar bark undoubtedly belonged to a more recent period than the Huron. The adult skeletons had unusually large proportions, and the back of the skull was found in several whether from accident or otherwise.

45. In front of the Anglican Church of Sharon and on the road to the north is called The Chemin, situated on lots 5 concession 3, opposite Fesserton, on the Sharon Point or Convent glen of Matchedash Bay. Jas. Abbott is the present occupant of the farm. The remains are ranked near what is known as Chimney Point, where an area of about 40 acres had been originally covered. They were estimated all that was left of the Indian occupied from 1778 to 1793, and latterly Crown or fur trade. The writer's purpose in re

[illegible] this place [illegible] were formerly [illegible] spoke of as h[illegible]e of c[illegible]y [illegible] to the early Fr[illegible] pe[illegible]l [illegible]ntiers, it is not [illegible] [illegible]k us much [illegible] [illegible] deserve to [illegible] a few words of [illegible] h[illegible]or [illegible] to Sir [illegible]ve with [illegible]ment of C[illegible]ra at [illegible] & [illegible] Mendoza [illegible] Dauvet [illegible] T[illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] Ca[illegible] [illegible] So[illegible] [illegible] Ch[illegible] [illegible] occasion when the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] tion of the [illegible] [illegible] could [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of stone and [illegible] and there [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] —one [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Hunter

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NOTE ON SITES OF HURON VILLAGES

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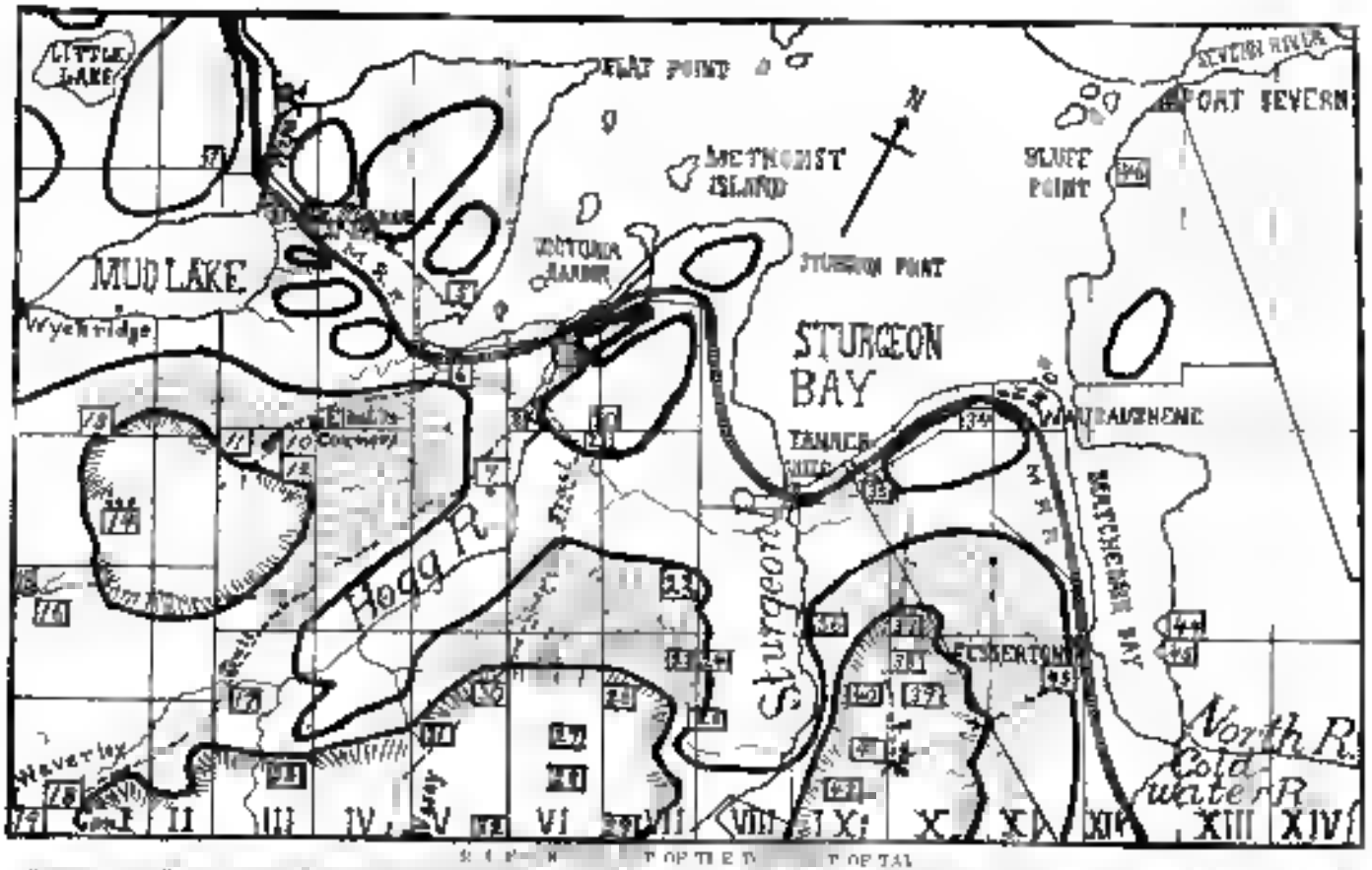
Notes on...

SITES of HURON VILLAGES

IN THE TOWNSHIP OF TAY SIMCOE COUNTY)

by Andrew F
Hunt r, M A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FLAT POINT
SEVERN RIVER
PORT SEVERN
METHODIST ISLAND
SLUFF POINT
MUD LAKE
VICTORIA HARBOUR
STURGEON POINT
STURGEON BAY
Wyebridge
Hogg R.
Sturgeon Creek
WATAUSHENE
MATCHEDASH BAY
ECKERTON
North R.
Cold water R.
Waverley
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NOTES ON

SITES OF HURON VILLAGES

IN THE

TOWNSHIP OF TAY (SIMCOE COUNTY)

BY ANDREW F. HUNTER M.A.

(Appendix to the Report of the Minister of Education.)

TORONTO
WARWICK BRO'S & RUTTER, LIMITED
1900

PREFACE

In the p[illegible] t th[illegible] f[illegible]owing Report it [illegible]s not appear neces sary to change the pla[illegible] [illegible]l p[illegible]t[illegible]l[illegible] my similar report on the archae logy [illegible] f t[illegible] [illegible]ship of [illegible]ny [illegible]ssued by the Education Department last May By f[illegible]owing [illegible] t[illegible] main t[illegible] [illegible]ame method [illegible]z putting the notes [illegible]nto th[illegible] f[illegible]rm [illegible] f a catalogue [illegible]f the village sites, the one becomes a continuation of the other and they may be preserved together by students of the History and archæology of our Province Separate copies of this Report o[illegible] Tay have been prepared for the use f those w[illegible] received my former report on the Township of Tiny

A F HUNTER

Barrie Oct November 1899

INTRODUCTION

Physical Features of Tay

Like the adjoining township of Tiny the surface of Tay consists mainly of parallel ridges with rivers between them. There is this difference, however: in Tiny most of the ridges lie entirely within the township, but in Tay only the ends are found. One of them crosses the boundary into Tiny, the other two pass southward into Medonte. For convenience I will call the former which lies between the Wye and Hogg rivers the Victoria Harbor ridge because it ends near Victoria Harbor. The next one lying between Hogg and Sturgeon rivers, will be called the Vasey ridge from the name of a village upon it. And the most easterly ridge between Sturgeon and Coldwater rivers will be named the Rosemount ridge from the name of the schoolhouse on its summit. Those parts of the township which lie east of Matchedash bay are rocky—Trenton limestone and Laurentian granite.

For showing the altitude of the land I know of no plan equal to mapping the abandoned beaches. This method has a very important advantage: a person can note by direct observation the lines of equal altitude in these extinct shorelines without going to the trouble of making a detailed survey by the use of levelling instruments. Accordingly I have observed their positions throughout the township noting the farms on which they appear, and I give the results of these observations on the accompanying map.

The highest of these old shorelines is the Algonquin beach which has an altitude of about 250 feet above the present level of Georgian Bay. It is a stupendous freak of Nature—an indelible mark on the face of the country—representing the expenditure of an immense amount of force by strong waves in the removal and assortment of materials. The Algonquin Sea that formed it washed away such quantities of movable material (clay, sand and gravel) from the exposed southerly ends of the ridges that large tracts of boulders are left. It picked the bones of the ridges as it were and left them bare. A large tract of this kind lies immediately south and east from Elliott's Corners, and similar tracts occur on the Vasey and Rosemount ridges. No Huron village sites occur on these uninhabitable stony tracts.

About 100 feet lower is the main beach of the Great Nipissing series or about 150 feet above Georgian Bay. To give all four beaches

[1] I am informed that this river is so called from an early Methodist preacher using the Ojibways.

of the Nipissing series would make a complicated map and would involve endless and unnecessary work. So I have mapped only the most strongly marked one of the series. The name Great Nipissing has been given by geologists because the outlet of this great lake to the sea before the birth of Niagara river was by the present and lesser Lake Nipissing and French river.

At the ends of the above mentioned ridges there were islands standing out from the mainland in the Great Nipissing sea or lake. One of the largest of these extinct islands lies in a southeasterly direction from the outlet of Hogg river and is a tract of isolated high ground covering an area of 300 acres or more. Before the forest was cleared away these extinct islands were separated from each other and from the ridges by the ice.

The advantages to the study of the subject gained by introducing these references to the old lake and beaches can best be seen by the ease with which they give the altitude of the land throughout Tay and thus elucidate its physical features. They have no connection with Huronian exposures except in so far as village sites are found near the springs that issue along those old lines. The heavy curving lines on the map denotes the Great Nipissing beach that will fringe internally showing the hills in the Algonquin.

The roads, also, and road allowances are marked on the map so that the reader can adopt a scale for any measurements he may require. In that part of the township called the Old Survey which consists of Concessions One and Two the side roads are placed at every fifth lot and are a mile and a quarter apart (100 chains). The lots on the first Concession are a mile and a quarter deep but those on the Second have a depth of only one half of that amount. Concessions Three to Fourteen make up the New Survey. These are five sixths of a mile wide (66 chains) and have sideroads at every fifth lot or a mile and seven eighths apart (600 rods). Bearing these measurements in mind a reader may readily calculate any distance. The lots are numbered from the south in both old and new surveys. The upper corner of Tay is not laid down on the map but will be found on our Report on the Township of Tiny.

Altogether I will give descriptions of forty-six sites. The plan of proceeding will be to begin at Mud Lake and proceed southerly and easterly through the township.

The Village Sites

The village sites described are only those known to the writer up to this date without any claim to completeness which in the present state of the subject would be impossible. Much success will be

found in the descriptions of these, especially the villages upon the higher ground of the Vasey and Rosemount ridges. Some readers may be ready to censure me for this apparent defect, but the fault is not mine. There would be variety enough if farmers and others had noted facts with more minuteness than they have done. But as a rule, they have observed only the most general features. Hence the sameness in the descriptions is due to the character and present stage of advancement of the subject with which we have to deal.

Some of the so-called villages, especially those on the lakeshore, were often mere camping grounds where successive generations of Hurons and other sedentary tribes of the interior camped from time to time when on fishing and other expeditions, and such places now have the appearance of villages. These lakeshore villages, after being Huron landings became Algonquin camp-grounds, the result being a mixture of relics on these spots that defies classification. Such places are found best at the sheltered bays and harbors along the shore while the intelligent points (only few of which we have attempted to record) were invariably used by men of both ways.

It will be noticed that only a few boulder sites occur in the Huron villages of Tay and these are confined exclusively to the Victoria Harbor ridge which long was the abode of that Nation of the Hurons called the Ataronchronons. On the Vasey and Rosemount ridges the sites are scattered though these are not in Tay but are found further south in Medonte township.

Still another feature is brought out in our survey of the township for village sites and if our collection of data makes any approach to being exhaustive the feature may be recorded authoritatively. This is the numerous distribution of small villages within easy reach of Sturgeon River along both sides of it. It appears to show that the river was a resort of the Hurons, which may be accounted for by the fact that it was a good hunting ground. It has sedgy banks and accordingly was a favorite haunt of fishes of the ganoid and pike families as the name indicates.

The Historic Side of the Subject

In so far as these Notes have any historic significance it will be readily seen that their chief feature is our attempt to throw some light upon the positions of these early missions of which Ste Marie was the centre and more particularly to find the village of St. Louis, where Brebeuf and Lallemant were captured and also St. Ignace where they were put to death. Besides the Fort of Ste Marie on the Wye partly protected by masonry and partly palisaded the villages numbered 4, 6, 8 and 19 in our list show evidences of palisading and from other con-

siderations these four may be regarded as belonging to the very latest Huron period. Other villages may have been palisaded likewise but these are the only ones of which I have certain evidence. It will be most natural, therefore, to seek for the palisaded villages of St. Louis and St. Ignace among these four. On the various points arising out of these questions however, it is not intended to offer our suggestions as anything more than plausible conjectures.

One of the first persons to investigate the situations of the Jesuit missions appears to have been the Rev. E. Chazelle who visited the district in 1842. Some years later (in 1855) the Rev. Felix Martin also made a tour of exploration in Huronia. It will be most suitable in this connection to quote from the brief account of this tour contained in a biographical sketch of this painstaking investigator:

"The aptness of Father Martin as an antiquary was known by the men in the Government and the Hon. George E. Cartier entrusted him with a commission to explore on the spot the site and the bounds of the ancient Huron missions in Upper Canada near Georgian Bay. By care Father Martin found the traces of the ancient posts of the Jesuits in that country where they had so many martyrs. He collected many Indian relics. He afterwards made a work embellished with plans and drawings the whole having been deposited at the seat of Government."

The next investigator was Dr. J. C. Taché who undertook some further exploration of Huronia at intervals in five years prior to 1865. Parkman in his works has quoted these archæological researches of Taché and thus has given wide currency to Taché's views of the positions of the mission sites.

It appears to have been Father Martin who fixed upon a village site on Fox's farm in Medonte township as that of St. Ignace and in this belief Dr. Taché afterwards examined the site somewhat minutely. This early decision as to what place was the scene of the tortures of Brebeuf and his companion received wide acceptance through Parkman's publication of them as the true position without any doubt. But it is certainly incorrect, and the best informed students of the subject have refused to recognize the claims of Fox's farm as its distance from Ste. Marie's much greater than the written descriptions justify.

In Taché's time there were comparatively few sites known. Since then however much new knowledge has been won and a solution of the problem of finding St. Ignace, as well as the other mission sites, has become possible. It may involve more labor than the first investigator anticipated but reliable conclusions have become more attainable. This is chiefly due to the fact that the greater part of Tay has been settled since Taché visited the district. The first settlers of the Vasey Ridge went there about thirty years ago; those on the Rose-

mont Ridge about twenty five years ago We n w learn from these settlers the characters of the village sites there. They had no palisades and accordingly St. Ignace was not one of the villages on these ridges. For a site was chosen through the uncritical use of Ducreux's map which shows the St. Ignace of about 1640. For the purpose of clearly distinguishing these two places, it has been decided to call the one we are now seeking, St. Ignace II.

Neither can Ducreux's map be taken as a guide for the St. Louis of 1649 as it shows the position of the one of about 1640. Throughout the text of this report I have called the one of later date St. Louis II.

As regards the distribution of the other mission sites as laid down by Ducreux, I am inclined to believe that each mission marked a district isolated by physical features; and whether we assume the villages in a group to have been contemporary with each other or to have been the same village at different periods each group of villages so isolated physically seems to have had its mission. The Rosemount Ridge, for example would naturally be the centre of one of the missions marked St. Jean and St. Joachim.

The Forest Trails.

The physical features also govern the courses of the forest trails which so far as I have located them are shown by the dotted curving lines on the map. As one may also see from the map the continuous high ground along which trails could be made makes its nearest approach to the Georgian Bay at the head of Victoria Harbor. Here then was the commercial centre of the Hurons as it has also been of later Algonquins. In other words the physical features of the district were such that Victoria Harbor became naturally the focus or centre of population the trails radiating from the head of the harbor in several directions inland along the higher ground. It appears to have been this very centre, the heart of the country that was smitten in 1644 other wise the Hurons would not have so precipitately deserted their country after the capture of only two of their villages, had these villages been of the ordinary unfortified kinds.

Amongst the results expected from the publication of this report it is hoped to correct a number of popular errors and wrong impressions that are unduly prevalent in the territory with which we have dealt. There is of course the usual tradition of buried treasures always to be found in connection with historic reports, and in this locality it is even more rife than elsewhere. Many intelligent persons

are impressed with the idea that treasures have been buried at these historic places whereas in reality there is nothing more precious to be found than chips of old brass kettles or worn out tomahawks But the belief in 'treasures' is deeply rooted and in a few places it even results in reticence when information is sought, and thus obstructs the course of guileless scientific enquiry As a rule however the farmers of Tay as elsewhere have been extremely courteous while I was prosecuting my enquiries and it is hoped that the report will further stimulate them and others to observe closely the Huron remains in their respective neighborhoods.

Of wide prevalence is the erroneous opinion that Fox's farm in Medonte had the site of St. Ignace II where the two early missionaries were tortured to death by the Iroquois Father Chazelle's earlier choice of a site on Sturgeon River for St. Ignace has almost been lost sight of by the acceptance of the Fox farm theory. But his theory of Victoria Harbor as the site of St. Louis still lingers and with a slight change it becomes tenable. The regarding of the human bones found at the site on Sturgeon River as the remains of Brebeuf and Lalemant is an opinion still current with a few of the older persons But the opinion that "the Hummocks" on the east side of Matchedash Bay were early French structures is now almost obsolete. Such errors as these it is hoped will be finally eradicated by the perusal of these notes.

DESCRIPTIONS OF THE VILLAGE SITES ETC

I Samuel D Frazer's

On the east end of lot 101 concession 2 (Samuel D Frazer Esq owner) Huron camps have been found scattered over an area of five or six acres Mr Frazer has lived here since 1839 and has been a close observer in everything that has particular to the aborigines as well as in other matters He states that cornhills were numerous near the site at the time the land was cleared These cornhills were of the large kind described in our Report on the township of Tiny page 13 Relics of the usual kinds have been found and also a few others less common among which was a discoidal stone measuring an inch and three fourths in diameter and five eighths thick slightly pitted near the middle on each side This was presented by Mr Frazer to the Provincial Museum and is No. 16702 in the archaeological collection Mr Frazer has befriended the science of archaeology in other ways more especially by the presentation to the museum of a sword dated 1619 also found in this neighborhood The position of this village

doubtless indicates the direction taken by the [illegible] from Ste. Marie.

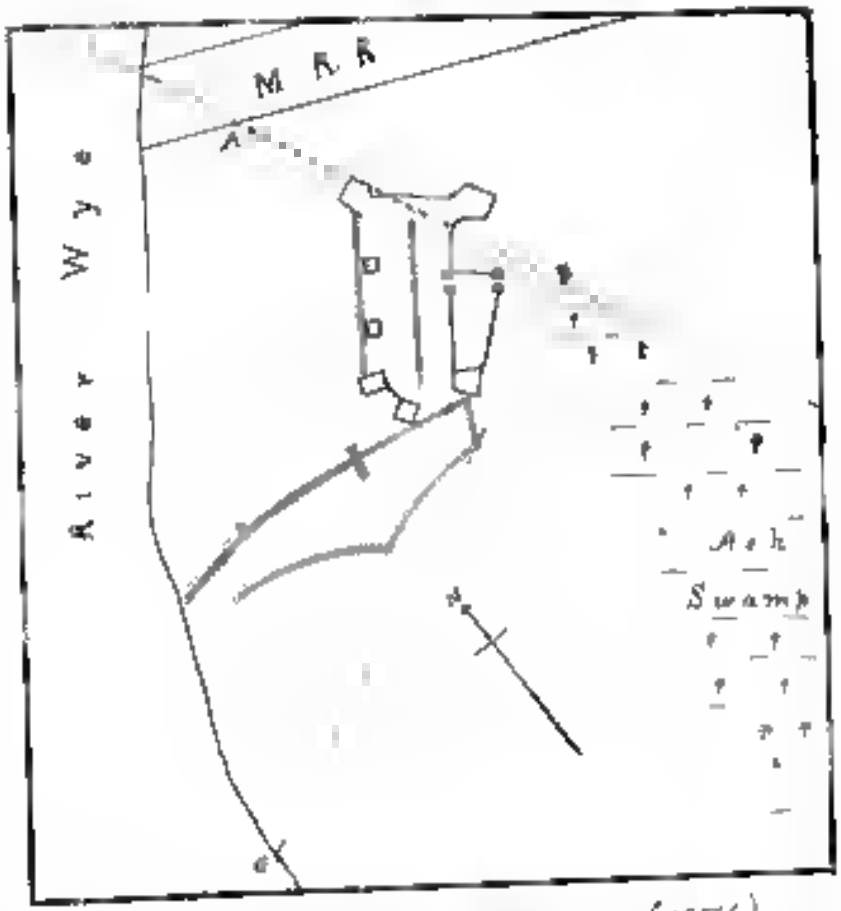
2. Ste. Marie on the Wye

The ruins of Ste. Marie the fortified mission built by the Jesuits in 1649 and occupied by them for ten years may be seen on lot 16 concession 4. It was a stone fort and is the most noteworthy object of historic interest in Hiawatha, though in its present crumbled condition it can be called only a ruin of a ruin

PLAN OF RUINS OF STE MARIE ON THE WYE
From a Map by Rev. [illegible] (1855)

While preparing these notes I was favored by Mr Edgar Hallen of Orillia with the use of a plan of Ste. Marie made in 1872 by his father the late Rev. Geo Hallen. With his permission an enlarged engraving has been made—a special favor that will be of much value to students of history generally as the present condition of the fort scarcely admits of the making of a definite sketch. Although the small drawing of the fort in Father Martin's Montreal edition of Bressani's Relation was copied from the plan of Mr Hallen's it lacks a number of details given in the original sketch

The author of the sketch wrote a note thereon that is worthy of our attention. In the (easterly) location is an instance of the flank of a bastion being curved with its convexity towards the interior of the work instead of being rectilinear. The original sketch also furnishes us with means for the measurement of the dimensions of the



Plan of Ste Marie on the Wye (1876)
By Peter Burnet P.L. Surveyor
AB is the line between east and west halves of Lot 16
BC is the northerly line of demarcation of an area in the west half having a separate ownership

fort. The curtains on the two sides fort fied by stonework are approximately 110 and 57 feet in length while the extreme measurements in straight lines along the same sides (i. e. including the western reaches of the bastions) are about 107 and 110 feet. The distance from the fort to the river is 44 yards. The trench along the southerly

end is not continued in the diagram beyond the stonework but some have observed this to be continued in a southeasterly direction to Mud Lake thus giving double access for water coming into the trenches. In the event of a siege if one course should be stopped the other might be kept open

As every observer will invariably record features that do not "strike" another observer acting independently, it may be interesting to compare Mr. Hallen's plan with one made by Peter Parnet P. L. Surveyor, who sketched the place in 1870. The latter plan which also belongs to Mr. Reigne Hallen, includes all the environs on the west half of lot 16 but we reproduce thereform only the fortification itself.

It is not my intention to give an extended description of the fort here as it has often been described in accessible books. I will add a few Bibliographical notes for the guidance of those readers who may wish to pursue the subject further. The carefully prepared descrip[tion] [by] Rev. Dr. Bell Rector of this Parish deserves a worthy of the [read]ers attention as he visited the place in 1805 when the Fort was [in] a more complete and useful condition than it is at present

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Chap. IV. De la residence faite de Sainte Marie.

Martin Rev. Felix. Life of Jogues. Appendix A contains a carefully written description of Ste. Marie which Father Martin visited in 1870

Parkman, Francis. Jesuits in North America
In a foot note at page 25 there is a lengthy description of Ste. Marie

3. John McDermott's

Remains of a few camps have been found on the northwest corner of John McDermott's farm the west half of lot 15 concession 4. The indications are that this was a small village having no palisades—the few scattered lodges having been placed there because of some springs. The position shows the probable route taken by the Huron trail that led from Ste Marie eastward. This lay along the south edge of some elevated ground (islands in the extinct Great Nipissing Lake)—the district immediately south of this trail having been occupied as Huron fields by hummocks surrounded with thickets and by small streams flowing into Mud Lake the ground there being exceedingly unsuitable for much travelling.

4. The Probable Site of St Louis II

At another part of Mr McDermott's farm (lot 15 concession 4) there is a much larger accumulation of blackened soil and ashes mixed with relics. The site is near the line between the west and east halves of the lot, but a little way into the east half. It is situated on a hill almost if not quite, surrounded by low ground and on account of occupying such a position it is evident *prima facie* that the village had been palisaded. From this place to Ste Marie the distance is about a mile. Just west of the site rise some springs from which the

village had been plentifully supplied with fresh water. One man, while ploughing on the site a few years ago found an earthen pot (which broke on being disturbed), and in it were six iron tomahawks. Northward from the village there was a graveyard containing a few burials, which, so far as observed, were of the isolated or single type. The skeleton of a person of very large proportions was found among these. Angus McDermitt, a brother of the landowner, counted twenty lodges at the site, the ashbeds of camp fires etc., being in some places as much as three feet in thickness.

It is probable the site is that of St. Louis II, the second village taken and burned by the Iroquois in March 1649 and the one at which the Jesuit missionaries Brebeuf and Lallemant, were captured, being led thence to St. Ignace where they were put to death. Among the considerations that lead up to this conclusion are the following:—

(a) The area estimated by Mr. McDermitt for twenty lodges (reckoning the usual number of four or five families to every lodge) would be nearly the size of St. Louis as recorded by the Rev. Paul Ragueneau. According to that chronicler about 500 Hurons had forsaken the place at the first alarm, leaving 80 warriors to fight the Iroquois.

(b) It was on the only route from Ste. Marie eastward to Victoria Harbor, the commercial centre of the Hurons hereabout. As pointed out in our description of the preceding site, the ground immediately south of this trail was not suitable for travelling, and so has never been cultivated; it yields no traces of villages or burials.

(c) The relics found at this place are of such kinds as to show that it was a village of the very latest period of the Huron occupation of the district. The existence of palisading also tends to prove the same, because so farther back in the country the Huron villages of earlier date seldom had palisades. Of all the fortified villages belonging to that latest period yet found this is the nearest to Ste. Marie.

(d) As to the distance of St. Louis II from Ste. Marie, a little apparent diversity in the evidence furnished by the records confronts us. Ragueneau gives us the distance as not more than a league (two miles and a half), but Regnant explicitly makes it much less. The latter writer uses the name "St. Ignace" (usually applied to the mission among all these villages as Ragueneau also tells us) for the village to which the two missionaries had set out, and does not mention the name "St. Louis." He gives the distance as "a short quarter of a league from Ste. Marie." The site under consideration therefore is not at variance with the conditions prescribed by either writer.

(e) Wherever situated it is a fact that St. Louis II could be seen from Ste. Marie, as all the writers agree in stating that those in the

fort could see the burning of the village. This furnishes a well authenticated test. From observations made upon the ground I found that looking eastward from Ste. Marie the only place where spectators could see a fire in the distance was at this very site. A small tract of elevated ground rising out of evergreen thickets closes the view from Ste. Marie toward the southeast, and I squad 8 the sites further along the trail at the head of Victoria Harbor from being the place we are seeking. It is quite time that, in a southerly direction, had there been a conflagration at site No. 10 on the high ground of the interior it might have been seen from Ste. Marie across the edge of Mud Lake; but No. 10 as well as the adjacent sites Nos. 11 and 12 counted with it, although regarded by some as St. Louis II have failed to satisfy other conditions.

This discussion of St. Louis II would be incomplete without some reference to the views held by others in regard to its position.

Father Chazelle who visited the locality in 1842 appears to have been the first to form any opinion on the subject. A fishing village at the mouth of Hogg River (No. 7) the landing place for the villages of the interior was the only site then known in its neighborhood and he fixed upon it as the site of St. Louis II. Father Martin and other enquirers followed him in holding this opinion. This however was determined in accordance with the diagram of Huronia in Duereux, which, as they failed to perceive shows the earliest position of St. Louis as we have already pointed out in the introduction.

Others have regarded the site No. 10 as the place. This opinion however seems to have been the result of the finding of a very large bone pit there suggesting to the popular mind that a massacre had taken place and recalling the fight at St. Louis II. To those who understand how a bone pit was formed among the Hurons viz. by the accumulation of human bones for a period of several years the finding of the pit proves exactly the opposite of a massacre. In fact, it furnishes a good proof that the site was occupied in time of peace and was not St. Louis II. In other respects, also, the site forbids the idea that it was the captured village.

Again the site on the Evans farm (No. 6) has presented some probable indications and the reader is referred to our description of it for fuller particulars. But a strong objection to the Evans site lies in the fact that it was hidden from Ste. Marie behind some high ground.

5. Neyr.

On the west side of Victoria Harbor some aboriginal remains have been found on lot 14 concession 5. These remains consisted of the

usual pottery fragments and other relics in ashbeds. Many caches or empty pits are at the site. There is also a patch of second-growth trees—what is called an "Indian clearing" but this phenomenon may be partly due to the beds of gravel so much of which is to be found there that the Midland Railway has an extensive "Gravel Pit" near it. But it may also be at least partly due to actual clearing, as the ancestors of some of the present Ojibway Indians at Christian Island are said to have grown their corn at this place and lived here. It must also have been a landing place for the earlier Huron Indians.

Evans

A Huron village site exists on the Evans farm the west half of lot 10 concession 5 at a short distance from the shore of Victoria Harbour and on the elevated ground of an old lake terrace. It is now almost obliterated by the farm buildings orchard and garden and its former appearance when the ground was new is difficult to get correctly recorded. But the late Wm. Evans, who first settled this place and whose family still occupies it gave Mr. A. C. Osborne an account of what he found and to Mr. Osborne I am indebted for the following description — Mr. Evans built his log house many years ago and in digging the cellar found about six feet of ashes. Large clumps of cherry trees, remains of corn deposits in birch bark, charred remains of palisades, large numbers of tomahawks, knives, stone implements and relics of various kinds were also found. The site is admirably adapted for defence on one side only.

From the scanty evidence that has come before me I have been able to conclude that this village although occupied during the time of the French traders did not belong to the very latest period. It is not in full view of Ste. Marie and accordingly cannot be regarded as St. Louis II because the burning of that ill-fated village could be seen by the spectators at Ste. Marie.

A short way to the southward of this village site the ground makes another abrupt rise the lower part of the steep hills being covered with berry patches. On the highest plateau was the corn patch belonging to the village. This is situated on the north west quarter of lot 11. W. Vaughan the owner has found many corn hills on his land. There is an excellent view from this high ground overlooking Victoria Harbour and the more distant islands.

Vent's

At the mouth of Hogg River there is the site of a village, occupied I suppose by Hurons as well as by Algonquins of later times, as the

shore of Victoria Harbor was a favorite resort of Indians until within recent years. Its position at the end of a trail shows that it was a fishing village and a "port of entry" for the villages of the interior. It is situated on the east bank of the river, on lot 14, concession 6 (Geo. Vent, owner). Pottery fragments were picked up here and other relics, including two double-barred crosses, a large one and a small one. The crosses were found many years ago by one James Maloney while ploughing for the occupant of that time James Coyle and were presented to the Rev. Father Chaumont of Penetanguishene. The site belonged to the earliest Huron period as the pottery fragments go to show but the double-barred crosses had a more recent origin probably in the eighteenth century.

This site has acquired some importance from the fact that it was known as early as 1842 when the Rev. Father P. Chazelle, S.J. visited it in the belief that it was St. Louis II. This was an erroneous view as we have elsewhere said but it was evidently due to the fact that there was no other site then known and to the acceptance of Durreau's map as a guide for the positions of the missions in 1648. It was however a close approximation to the true position, as the reader may infer from the facts as now understood.

By following the trail up the east bank of the river a little way the men with Father Chazelle found trees marked with Indian blazes. One a large elm was marked with a cross probably to show the forking of the trail at the place. This was at the so called Indian clearing on lot 12 shewn in our diagram of the next site.

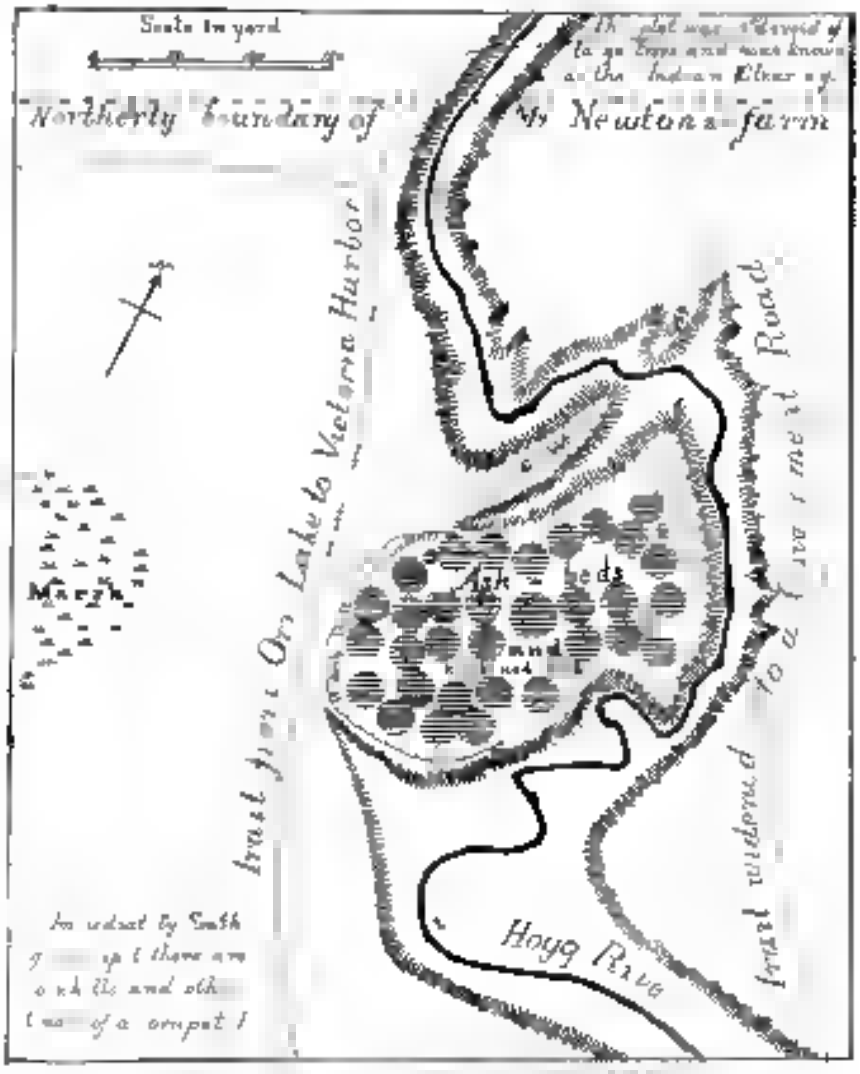
It may be of some interest to add that Father Chazelle when on this early exploring tour to Hogg River held an open air meeting (either at the "Indian clearing" or at the outlet). He preached to a concourse of settlers on the subject of the massacre of the early missionaries.

8. The Probable Site of St. Ignace II.

Through the farm of Chas. E. Newton, Esq. the west half of lot 11 concession 6 the Hogg River has cut a canyon like path in the old lake bed deposits to a depth varying from fifteen to twenty feet. In this part of its course the river makes a loop something like the letter U which encloses an ideal spot for a village requiring means of defence.

Hurons selected for one of their villages this plot of ground containing four or five acres in the head of the river. The ground is covered with rubbeds and blackened soil mixed with relics. The latter consisted of iron tomahawks knives, pieces of metal probably cut out of worn out brass kettles and pottery fragments in endless quan-

t ues. All these relics how that the site was one of those occupied down to the very latest period of the Huron occupation of the district There are empty caches at the site, and a pottery just south of it where the clay is of good quality for plastic work Mr Newton has xperimented successfully in making terra cotta from the same clay



What appears to have been the village corn patch covers near the house of Wm Bennett on lot 10 and it may have extended as far north as the site itself though the cultivated ground no longer shows any traces of the corn hills. From this site to Ste Marie the distance is 3½ miles.

A trail comes from Orr Lake by the way of Waverley and just before reaching this place is divided into two strands one passing down each side of the river These meet again at the Indian Clearing on lot 12 which we mentioned in connection with the last site The trail down the east side as far as the "Indian Clearing" and thence to the mouth of the river was widened many years ago, into a township road now disused

It is probable the so called Indian Clearing is due to the gravelly soil which would not permit of the growth of trees rather than to actual clearing by the aborigines But, whatever its origin it was certainly a resort of the Indians, the larking of the trail having been here These trails were used by them until recent years when the erection of fences obstructed their course

The plot of ground on the bend of the river has been called the Jesuits Field for many years, but by whom it was so named is not known to Mr Newton Nor has any enquiry so far elicited any explanation of the name unless it became connected with the place from the visit of Rev P Chazelle S J to the neighborhood in 1842 as described in the account of the last mentioned site It is not evident, however that he visited this plot on the west side of the river

This spot has also the usual traditions of buried treasure in greater numbers than elsewhere all that were possible Thus, the Rev J H McCollum rector of St. Thomas Lowe to who was present at the opening of the Anglican church in 1899 makes reference to one of these traditions in his account of the place written for the *Canadian Churchman* —

This happy valley was once the scene of terrible encounters between the Hurons and the savage Iroquois and in this valley the early missionaries to these enslaved red men buried the sacred vessels of the church to save them from destruction. The place is known as the Jesuit's Meadow to this day

It is probable this site on the river's bank was St. Ignace II the first Huron village captured by the Iroquois in the early morning of March 16 1649 and the place to which Brebeuf and Lallemant were brought, a few hours later and there tortured to death Its distance from Ste. Marie coincides pretty well with the records all the writers agreeing that it was less than two leagues (five miles), and about a league from St. Louis which in my opinion was the site of Mr McDermitt's (No 4).

But the strongest evidence is in the configuration of the ground. Rev P Ragueneau's account of the place (Relation 1648) suggests a

plan of the village and its surroundings, and tells us beforehand what appearances we may expect to find there. He says —

"It was surrounded by a palisade of posts from fifteen to sixteen feet high and by a deep trench (fossé) with which Nature had powerfully strengthened the place on three sides, a small space alone remaining weaker than the others. It was through that part the enemy forced his entrance.

While this description of St Ignace II will suit, in some measure, almost any palisaded site because these were as a rule placed on a spur of land the completeness of the fortification effected by Nature in this case, was such as to attract the attention of the chronicler who wrote the description just quoted. After diligent search through the sites of the district I can find none that is exactly agreeable with this description of St. Ignace II as this site on Mr Newton's farm

9 Hutchinson's and Taylor's

A village site on the farm of John Hutchinson the east half of lot 10 concession 5 extends into the adjoining farm of Levi Taylor lot 9. In a field of twelve acres at the south side of Mr Hutchinson's farm house line found these camps chiefly along the front of a hill against the base of which the abandoned beaches of the Great Nipissing Lake are strongly marked. There is nothing in the appearance of these straggling camps to indicate that they had been palisaded. The village was plentifully supplied with water a spring issuing just north of what was the most thickly populated ground and the Hogg River is divided into two parts at the front of the farm one part flowing near the site. The ashbeds have yielded the usual relics. An engraving of a clay pipe found upon Levi Taylor's farm is reproduced here from the Archæological Report for 1897 8 page 19. Some cremated remains have been found among the remains and cornhills were visible when the land was first put under cultivation. An aggregate of more than a dozen pre tomahawks have, at various times been found by Mr Hutchinson in his field

A bonepit was discovered in the year 1879 on lot 9 (Levi Taylor's) near the boundery line of Mr Hutchinson's farm. It measured about twelve feet in diameter and the deposit of human bones went to a depth of about six feet below the level of the surrounding ground. Deducting two feet for the vacancy at the top of the pit, caused by sinkage, leaves the thickness of the deposit at about four feet. The bonepit has been filled in and is now ploughed over. A short account

of it appeared at the time it was found in the *Orillia Packet* of September 5 1878 and this was reprinted (though the source was not indicated) in the *Toronto (Daily) Globe* of September 16, in the same year. Mr Hutchinson confirmed in the presence of the writer, on July 5th, 1899 the various particulars cited in this printed account. The pieces of copper had probably been sections from kettles obtained from French traders. The shape of one seen by myself was trapezoidal its sides being about a foot long and its parallel ends two and four inches respectively. Two or three skulls taken from the pit had round holes in them. We reproduce here the original description exactly as it appeared in the newspapers above mentioned: —

"While logging on lot 9, concession 5 Tay Mr. John Hutchinson and Messrs G. H. and Hugh Mills discovered a large grave containing they suppose in the neighborhood of five hundred bodies. They opened the grave and obtained two tomahawks, bearing a French stamp, four pieces of copper, each resembling a sole of a boot of different sizes and wrapped in buckskin which is still fresh and strong, one clay tobacco pipe and parts of two sea shells one in fair preservation. The bones are those of people much above the present ordinary stature. The settlers saw a few children's remains but these were not in good preservation. A large tree was growing above and had sent its roots down through the grave. Mr Hutchinson finds many pieces of Indian crockery in clearing up his farm (lot 10)."

Some camps that may be reckoned as part of this village occur on land of Wm Taylor the west half of lot 9 concession 4 belonging the farm of his son Le[illegible]. His land extends from the hill already mentioned and it was on the lower ground where these camps were found. On the higher ground however near his dwelling house the point of a sword (ten inches long) was found in 1899 and from time to time one or tomahawks in considerable numbers. As many as seven were to be seen at one time lying around the house.

On the east half of lot 8 concession 7 (west side of Hogg River) there were formerly found a few pottery fragments, one tomahawk and clay pipes when the land was cleared.

The scattered village that we have just finished describing may have been the mission marked Kaotia on D'Avenx's map though this mission was more probably the group in the 3rd concession at lot 10 but so inexact is the map just mentioned that we can scarcely decide which place is meant. The Rev. A. E. Jones, of St. Mary's College Montreal has a wide acquaintance with the literature of the missions and makes Kaotia identical with St. Annes (*Orillia News Letter* June 29 1899).

10 John Houghton's

A site on lot 10 concession 3 at which two bonepits have been found has attained to more than ordinary fame. So many persons have seen or heard of one or the other of the bonepits here and mention it to enquirers that it has become the most celebrated among the many interesting sites of the district—a fact that is perhaps also partly due to the great size of one of the pits. It has been stated to myself that the first pit was examined by the late Dr Tache during his explorations of the remains of Huronia. Whether this statement is correct or not which we have no means of knowing because Tanhé's book as edited and published) none of the pits was certainly known at any early date. It was often described as Errington's because that was the name of the first settler here though it was not located on his farm. It appears to have been since the time of Dr Tache's alleged visit [illegible] that another large bonepit was discovered near the site of the discovery of the latter having taken place in 1878. It attracted some attention in the newspapers at the time, and one of the paragraphs (from the Oakville *Express* Nov 1 1878) we give below with —

A large pit or cave has lately been discovered on (near) Mr W Errington's farm near Wyebridge in which to appearance were human remains of about two thousand persons besides brass kettles pipes and other Indian relics. It is supposed to be on the site of an old Jesuit fort St Louis where in 1649 there was a terrific struggle between the now almost extinct Hurons and the Iroquois.

The skulls in this second bonepit was said to have been arranged in rows. Among the articles found in it were a block of copper some copper kettles and braids of human hair. It visited this famous site on July 7 1899 and inspected the pit just described. It has a diameter of twenty feet and is situated on the southeast quarter of lot 10 in the township being John Houghton.

What was described to me as the body of a child was found in one of these pits (probably the first one discovered) wrapped in fur and placed in a copper kettle the oxide from which had protected the flesh remains from decay. But this may have been only part of a child's body as descriptions are sometimes unintentionally distorted even by eye-witnesses. It is not improbable that it was the specimen that ultimately found its way into Dr Bawtree's collection and is designated "Forearm and hand of a child from a Sepulchral Pit."

There was a corduroy at this site a portion of which may still be seen in the woods near at hand. There was a trail from here to Victoria Harbor and if there was another trail in summer leading in

a direct line to Ste. Marie the only passable route would be nearly where the 6 orth concession line is now located and would cross at least three evergreen-tl ickets.

It will be observed tl at tl e writer of the paragraph quoted above gives credence to the view that the site under consideration was tl at of the mission of St Louis II and the late Rev J W Ann s a Methodist minister who devoted some attention to the Hnron sites held tl e same opinion I am inclined however to regard this place as the one marked Kaotsa an Dncrenx a map And as a village had to be moved for sanitary reasons about every ten years the two adjacent sites (Nos 11 a d 12) would probably indicate the same village at different periods of its existence.

11 Whether the ear pfires of the site just described are situate l near tl e bonepits or whether tha narks of habitation there are only tl ose accidental to the compatch is not yet clear It is established beyond doubt however that many asl beds of camps occur on tl e w st half of lot 10 concession 3 W n H nes th tenant has found n ani pottery fragi ents pipes sto e axes a d iron tomahawks the latt r beu g numerous

12 On the east half of l s 9 concession 3, there s a village s te that shows some ev dence of fortification. It is situated on the level top of a hill o- spur of high ground, and was probably palisaded. Ashbeds are numerous and there was a refuse heap or mound in all of which the usual relics have been found The lot is owned by J D Carscadden Ell tt's Corners, and occupied by the family of Sylvester Campbell Midland.

13 A village site occurs on the east half of lot 21 concession 1 Cornelius McCarthy an early settler in the district and the first pe son to settle upon this lot, being still the owner Stone axes iron tomahawks tobacco p pes pottery fragments and other relics have been found at th s site which was located at natural springs of water

14. On lot 87 (east h lf) concession 1 a village site is met with also a bonepit and ten or more graves or small bonepits. These were opened chiefly during the time f occupation of the late Anthony Latanville wh was the owner of the farm for many years. Prof Henry Montgomery (now of Trinity University Toronto) writes as follows of s relics found here "The piece of large copper kettle with beaver skin adhering to it, and which I donated to the Univers ty (of Toronto) was taken from an ossuary on Latanville s place This relic is No. 225 of the University collection. The village site covers about three acres and springs rise at it unning and flowing into the Wye

River. Iron tomahawks were numerous. A piece of lead fourteen pounds in weight was found, also bullets, and a neighbor, Thos. McDowell, once found a gun.

15. A village site occurs on the west half of lot 85, concession I. Charles Elliott, who now occupies the farm on which the next site is located (No. 16), was formerly the owner here, and during his term of ownership pottery fragments, iron tomahawks, etc., were found. Refuse mounds, indicating prolonged habitation, occur at this site, which is near the stream belonging also to the next site, but on the opposite bank.

16. The village site numbered here is located upon the west half of lot 84, concession I (Chas. Elliott, owner). Pottery fragments, tobacco pipes, iron tomahawks and other relics have been found. The site extends across the Penetanguishene Road into Wm. McLellan's plot of ground, on which have also been found many iron tomahawks, pipes, etc. At this site, which is beside a stream, two empty caches or hiding pits occur on Mr. Elliott's land.

17. On the west half of lot 4, concession 3, occurs a site, but it does not appear to be so extensive as others on higher ground. George Stroup, owner. It is situated beside a stream that runs into Hogg River at a short distance from it. They have found here many relics, including iron tomahawks.

18. A village of considerable size existed on the south-west quarter of lot 77, concession I, George Davis, the present owner, but many relics were found in the time of Robert Gorman, the former occupant. Two refuse mounds were formerly to be seen, showing that the village had been a permanent one. Ashbeds, each over an area of about four acres, and they contained numbers of iron tomahawks, glass beads, pottery fragments, pipes, etc. A stream passes here and flows into Hogg River just beyond the Simpson site (No. 17).

19. Many relics have been picked up on the Bannister homestead, lot 74, concession I. These included iron tomahawks, stone axes and pottery fragments, indicating the occurrence of Huron camps. But whether these were outlying habitations of the last mentioned village site (No. 18) or a distinct site altogether I have not been able to decide. When the land was cleared, ossuaries were to be seen on the west part of this farm. In connection with the great abundance of

Huron corn patches mentioned so frequently in these notes I have observed that Indian corn at the present day matures with great rapidity on the fine sandy loam of this locality

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Various other sites occur in the immediate neighborhood of the Bannister farm but just beyond the boundaries of Tiny township. It is not our intention therefore to take notice of them here. But the occurrence of some camps where many interesting relics have been found may be mentioned in passing. These are on lot 76 concession 1 Tiny the farm formerly occupied by the Bell family. A finely carved pipe bowl representation of what was probably intended for a bear was among the relics found.

No 8 Southwesterly from the mouth of Hogg River and standing out by itself as a tract of high ground on which so many village sites are met with undoubtedly Huron in the aboriginal. One of these is on the west half of lot 11 concession 7 occupied by Joseph Belfry. On this farm and near the site now under consideration there is a piece of land where no large trees had grown since the forest that formerly covered the place — in fact just such a bare patch as we found at No 8. Some persons supposed that this also was an Indian clearing" but in reality it was merely a gravelly patch where the soil was unfavorable to the growth of large trees. The ashbeds here occupy a kind of shelf of land that slopes towards the north and they extend westward across the seventh concession line a short way into the farm of Sherman Belfry east half of lot 11 concession 6. On both farms the occupants have found iron tomahawks, tobacco pipes and the usual fragments of earthen pots. Where the concession line crosses the site I observed many of these fragments in post holes but no other evidences of Huron occupation. An higher ground than along the south of the camps and as their form is not compact but string-like it is pretty evident that no palisading ever existed here. It may therefore be concluded that, although the village was inhabited during the time of French traders (as the tomahawks show) it was not occupied at the latest part of that period.

21 On the next farms southward but separated from the last site by the slightly higher ground just mentioned the remains of an important village have been found. It is situated on the north-east quarter of lot 10 concession 6 (Edward Crooks, owner) but also covers a portion of the south east quarter of the same lot (Wilson Crooks, owner). Its position is on a high terrace with low ground along the south. The remains have been found chiefly at the fronts of these

wo farms near the dwelling houses and farm buildings. Here they have found quantities of iron tomahawks tobacco pipes, pottery fragments, etc. and ossuaries in abundance were to be seen before the ground had been cultivated long enough to obliterate them. These were especially visible when the first settler of this lot (William Hill) lived here. During his time the ashbeds were quite distinct. This site extends across the public road into the front part of the farm of Matthew Campbell (west half of lot 10 concession 7) where they have found the same kinds of relics - but the late George Mills the original settler on this lot found much more than has the present occupant. Although this site covered considerable ground it is doubtful whether any palisading ever existed at it not having been compact and lying adjacent to higher ground. Its position agrees closely with that of the [illegible] on Tooker's [illegible] map which layed down as they were about the year 1640 almost all having been shuttled before the extermination in 1649.

22. Traces of a village have been found to the east half of lot 7 concession 7. James Hamilton was the first settler upon this farm about eighteen years ago and when clearing the land he found ashbeds, iron tomahawks and other relics.

23. Another site on the east half of lot 5 concession 7. William Hopkins the present occupant, and Wilbur Haines a former occupant have both found the usual pottery and pipe fragments, iron tomahawks flint spear heads etc. The site is near a small swamp that drains northeastward to the Sturgeon River.

24. Across the concession line on the west half of lot [illegible] concession 8 Arthur Looney the owner finds a few remains but the site is not large in comparison with some others in the neighborhood.

25. Further south on the east line a site of considerable size occupies both adjacent corners of lots 3 and 4 where the farms meet. When Robert Warden the owner of the west half of lot 3 concession 8 began excavating for his dwelling house he found the usual ashbeds of a superficial depth. Numerous relics were also found including beads (native and European) iron knives and iron tomahawks, the latter in considerable numbers. Across the road in concession 7 near the boundary between the farms of John Morrison (lot 3 east half) and Robert Lockhart (lot 4, east half) were some pelasse mounds. And in the adjoining corner on Patrick Canavan's land (southwest quarter of lot 4, concession 8) a few relics have been picked up. It is estimated that the camps here covered about fifteen acres altogether situated as in so many other instances, upon an old lake terrace.

26. Another village occupies on the land of Andrew Brown west half lot 4 concession 7. A spring issues near this site and flows into the Sturgeon River. The occupants have found stone axes or skinning stones and other relics. Large numbers of French iron tomahawks have been found especially during the time of the first settler John Maud. It is related how the roof of his stable was the receptacle for these relics, and was sometimes covered with them fifty or more lying upon it at one time. Some scattered relics are also to these, have been found on the opposite farm across the concession line.

27. When the east half of lot 4 concession 6 was cleared about thirty years ago the first settler upon it—Matthew Campbell—found relics (including iron tomahawks) indicating the site of another village. A few were also found on the farm of his brother the late John Campbell across the road but not in sufficient numbers to indicate any site. William Albert Campbell a son of the first settler now occupies lot 4 in question. There is level ground on the rear of the farm where water could be had the ridge sloping toward Hogg river.

28. Following the same concession line southward one finds the site of another village on the next farm east half of lot 2 in concession 6. The owner Hector McLeod found the camps named in the southwest part of his farm and they were strewn with various relics, such as pottery fragments pipes, iron tomahawks etc. Thomas Hassan found a large European bead which he sent to the museum. It was a large coarse glass bead with hues of red white and blue in a scallop pattern. The water drainage at the place runs southward and then around to Hogg river passing westward about lot 2 in Medonte. The site is not large in comparison with others.

29. On the west half of lot 1 concession 7 (John A. Swan, owner) is another. Traces of it were formerly quite distinct on the high ground behind the farm buildings and many relics of the usual kinds were found at various times—stone axes iron tomahawks tobacco pipes (both clay and stone) and pottery fragments. Mr Swan settled here in 1870 and in the earliest years of his term of occupation corn hills were distinctly visible west of the camp but these hills have been obliterated by frequent ploughing. In connection with this site it should be mentioned that a large bonepit was discovered in the year 1869 on adjoining land across the townline in the township of Medonte. It is not yet evident whether this bonepit was connected with this site or with another further south but it is not too far from this one to have belonged to it being only about seventy rods distant from the townline in front of Mr Swan's residence.

30 There is a site on the farm of James Russell east half of lot 4 concession 5 and some relics of the usual kinds have been found at it but it appears to have been small in comparison with others. There was a patch of cornhills near by and probably used by the inhabitants of the site on the farm of Wm Russell west half of lot 3 concession 6 though these cornhills have been wholly obliterated by cultivation

31 The remains of a Huron village the inhabitants of which appear to have used the same position for several years have been found upon the west half of lot 3 concession 5 The first settler on the farm Robert Webb came in 1865 and remained on it until about twelve years ago. As he was a close observer besides having resided here so long our information in regard to the site is fuller than in many other cases. A noteworthy feature was the finding of a *cache* or hiding pit filled with corn The grains were not black as charcoal and the difference was that the had been charred not roasted. But their black color doubtless arose merely from their great age 250 years or more being sufficient to carbonize any kind of seed The discovery of the corn is confirmed by Hector McLeod who observed it while ploughing The amount was estimated at more than two bushels. In the field south of the site many cornhills were visible when they cleared the land Besides the village a human skeleton was found buried Among the relics found were tobacco pipes of various kinds some with human faces stone axes, iron tomahawks and knives, pieces of brass kettles in great numbers. Since Mr Webb retired from the farm various persons have lived upon it either as owners or tenants. Among these were Matthew Vasey and Wm. Widdess the present owner is George Jones. During their respective terms of occupancy some relics have also found John Ashley Babe who taught at Russells schoolhouse in the neighborhood frequently searched here for relics He writes of the workmanship of the specimens as follows "The pottery fragments were nearly all nicely carved the carving of course being of a somewhat rude type The pipes showed a great deal of skill on the part of the makers their bowls were wrought in a variety of forms. In some instances they took the form of the head of some animal or bird One pipe stem judging from its appearance must have been formed by drilling a hole right through an ordinary stone A pipe bowl formed out of a common stone about two inches and a half in diameter had on either side of the bowl a head of some animal Mr Babe picked up many little pieces of sheet metal probably from brass kettles He says these were to be found in all parts of the field It would appear that when the kettles obtained from the French traders became useless from having holes in them the

Hurons cut them up by some means into chips and used the pieces as arrowheads, knives, etc. At some other village sites of the later period of French occupation the ground is also strewn with these metal chips. In order to examine its position I visited this site on July 5th 1899 and made a diagram of it. The usual fragments of pottery and clam shells were to be seen. The ashbeds were most numerous—at the head of a small ravine, the abrupt descent to which is about 30 feet and here the inhabitants found their supply of fresh water in springs. Passing from this ravine the ground rises gently through the field which contains about 12 acres but is not all covered with ashbeds. There is nothing in its situation to lead one to believe this village had been palisaded. When the Hurons built a village for defence it was usual to select a place where Nature assisted. But here Nature furnishes no aid rather the opposite. So it is not probable that palisades will be found. A trail has always existed here leading past site No. 30.

31. On the east half of lot 1 on concession 3 there is a site where the usual relics—pottery fragments, pipes, iron tomahawks, stone axes etc.—have been found. Robert Hall the owner has lived here since 1873 and he has informed me that before the land was cultivated he could see the cornhills that were used by the Huron inhabitants of the village.

33. A small site occurs on the east half of lot 2 concession 3. This farm was formerly owned and cleared by John Tinney who found previous to 1876 various relics including iron tomahawks. Among subsequent owners was Michael Russell and the present occupant is Horace Jennett.

34. Various remains found beside the shore at a spot just west of Waubaushene, indicate the position of what was a favorite resort of the aborigines in considerable numbers. It appears to be situated upon lot 11 concession 10. An area of about ten acres is the extent of ground over which remains have been found. The patch of second growth trees here was believed to show where there had once been an Indian clearance but as in many other cases it may be more correctly explained by the presence of gravelly soil. It was formerly a favorite resort for relic seekers some of whom dug into Indian graves of which some exist here. The graves thus molested were not communal but single burials. Some iron tomahawks and gun barrels have been found the latter tending to show that the site was occupied in the eighteenth century by Algonquins. But whether it was a landing place of the Hurons in earlier times is not yet evident.

35. Further west at Tanner's Mill, (also known as Tannerville) more aboriginal remains have been found. It was at the shore here that the trail to the interior had its northerly end. And in the days of early settlement (in 1830, or soon after) this trail was widened into a Government road from Coldwater, and a blockhouse erected here. The place was a depot on the way to the early mines of the upper lakes. It had docks and the early steamers of Georgian Bay made it a port for calls, the other port being Penetanguishene. Altogether the port of Sturgeon Bay—the terminus of the Government portage—in the days before railways was a stirring place. But its glory has long since departed. Many legends cling around the old place and stories of buried treasures. But the only articles ever found here, so far as can be learned with certainty, were a few Indian beads and fragments of human bones, besides some other kinds of Indian relics. These were found on the high ground just back from the shore. This place was always a frequent resort of Algonquins. But its origin was doubtless earlier in Huron times when the trail to the interior was so constant use. Ducreux's map places the mission of St Jean (not St. Jean Baptiste) to the right of the outlet of Sturgeon River and a short way in land. It will be seen by referring to our map that there is a tract of high ground here, an island during the time of the Great Nipissing Lake and this tract is separated from the high ground of the interior by low swampy ground through which a stream flows toward Sturgeon River. St Jean was a mission to the Attironderonons while the mission next south of it (according to the Ducreux map) viz. St. Joachim was among the Arendaronons. A physical demarcation of some kind between St Jean and St Joachim is thus suggested because the Huron "nations" were usually divided from each other by physical boundaries. It is possible therefore that St. Jean belonged to the isolated tract of high ground now under consideration and was a site near Tannerville not the one usually at the place.

16. Rev. Father Chazelle whose investigations in the Huron country in 1849 we have already mentioned made a search on the east side of the Sturgeon River for the site of St. Ignace where Brebeuf and Lallemant were put to death. It is evident that, in doing this he was following Ducreux's map, which gives the position of the earlier and first St. Ignace and that he had not become aware of the fact that a second St Ignace had existed. He directed the French Canadians with him to run the canoe up Sturgeon River a mile and a half from the outlet. Near where they landed they found in the woods, a village site and at it some relics, such as conch-shells. Here were blazes or marks upon trees made by Indians of comparatively

recent times but whether Lalemant's party came to the place. They found also, in graves, the bones of two persons which tradition has erroneously regarded as those of Brebeuf and Lalemant, forgetful of the fact that their bones were found by the search ing party from Ste Marie in 1649 and taken to Quebec.

37 Passing to the high ground east of the Sturgeon River one finds the most northerly site of the group on the land of Frank Joseph the west half of lot 6 concession 10. Here on a patch of ground cultivated only during the past two seasons they have found stone axes, an iron tomahawk, a tobacco pipe and some fragments of deer bones.

38 Some ash beds of Huron camps are met with on the farm of Alex Begg the west half of lot 5 concession 10. They have found pottery shreds, pipes, stone axes and numbers of iron tomahawks. Southwest of this site which is not large there is a small huckleberry marsh. It was on the opposite side of the road on lot 4 but near the site.

39. A site of moderate dimensions occurs on the northwest quarter of lot 4 concession 10—the farm of James Stewart. On a patch of high ground toward the centre of the farm they have found pottery fragments iron knives iron tomahawks etc. Similar relics have been found on the adjoining fifty-acre farm or southwest quarter of the same lot 4 which is cultivated by Mr Begg and also a few on the east half owned and occupied by Robert C Stewart.

40 Across the road on the east half of lot 4 concession 9 James Foden the owner has found iron tomahawks, pottery fragments etc. ash beds and patches blackened by Huron camp fires. These occur on the highest ground—a large knoll at the rear of his farm.

41 A similar small site occurs on the east half of lot 3, concession 9. In the extreme southeast corner the usual relics have been found and this part of this site extends into the adjoining land of Joseph Greatrix where he has found the kinds of relics mentioned under the last site besides stone axes. On its north side this village was near another huckleberry marsh.

42 Another site distinct from the one last mentioned is on the farm of Joseph Greatrix the east half of lot 2, concession 9. Mr Greatrix has lived on this farm for 25 years and has frequently found at the rear of it the usual remains of camps and the same kinds of relics as occur at the other villages of this group.

It will be observed that the six preceding sites on the Rosemount Ridge are small there being probably not more than a dozen camps at any of them and there are no bonepits associated with them. But on this same high ridge in Medonte township about a mile south of the Tay townline some bonepits have been found at larger villages. It is but natural to suppose that as regards Feasts of the Dead and the formation of bonepits among the Rock Nation or Arendaronons the small outlying villages of this group would be tributary or subordinate to the larger villages situated further south in Medonte. The mission of St Joachim was perhaps in this group of smaller villages.

43. At a little distance from the shore of Matchedash Bay, near Fesserton many relics of the aborigines have been found. These were most frequently met with upon ploughed ground on the farm of George Postal lot 5 concession 12 and also on lot 4. Villages situated like this near the shores of the large lakes mostly yield relics which have undoubtedly belonged to Algonquins of a period subsequent to the Hurons. But in the present instance if the remains were those of Algonquins they must have belonged to an early period—before the traders had supplied them with kettles for cooking purposes—as amply testified by the fragments of primitive pots made from baked clay so commonly found at Huron sites, and also found here. At the projection of land known as Bush's Point some ruinse mounds were formerly to be seen.

44. On the opposite shore of Matchedash Bay at Rankin's Point on lot 6 concession 13 similar remains have been found. Here by the ruins were also found a few graves (single burials) in which the skeletons had been buried in a crouching position. One of the skeletons was decked with large medal glass beads and other trinkets done up in cedar bark and evidently belonged to a more recent period than the Hurons. The same skeleton had unusually large proportions and the back of the skull was flattened whether by accident or otherwise.

45. In a field to the north of Tay River which did not count to mention the remains called The Chimney" situated on lot 5 concession 13 opposite Fesserton or rather Bush's Point on the east side of Matchedash Bay. Jas. Abbott is the present occupant of the farm. The remains are located upon what is known as Chimney Point," where an area of about 40 acres had been originally cleared. They consist of all that is now left of the buildings occupied from 1778 till 1793 and later by Crawford a fur trader. The word's purpose is re-

ferring to them in this place is because they were formerly often spoken of as the ruins of a structure belonging to the early French period. I do not yet, they are sometimes referred to as such and it is desirable to give a few words of caution against this error. Governor Simcoe was the guest of Cowan at this place in 1793. (See Macdonell's Diary in Proceedings of the Canad. Institute Fourth Series Vol. I.) On a recent occasion when the writer visited this place the foundation of the main building could be distinctly seen (built of stone and brick) and there were three chimneys grouped around this trading house—one apparently at either end of the building and another at some little distance away representing probably the kitchen. There were other buildings near at hand of which the foundations could be traced when M. Abbott first went there.

Of Gun Bluff Point, near Port Severn some pottery fragments pipes etc. have also been observed. No other relics have been found that would indicate the exact period to which this site belonged which was doubtless quite early as the coarse fragments of baked clay vessels go to prove.

Hunter

NOTE ON SITES OF HURON VILLAGES

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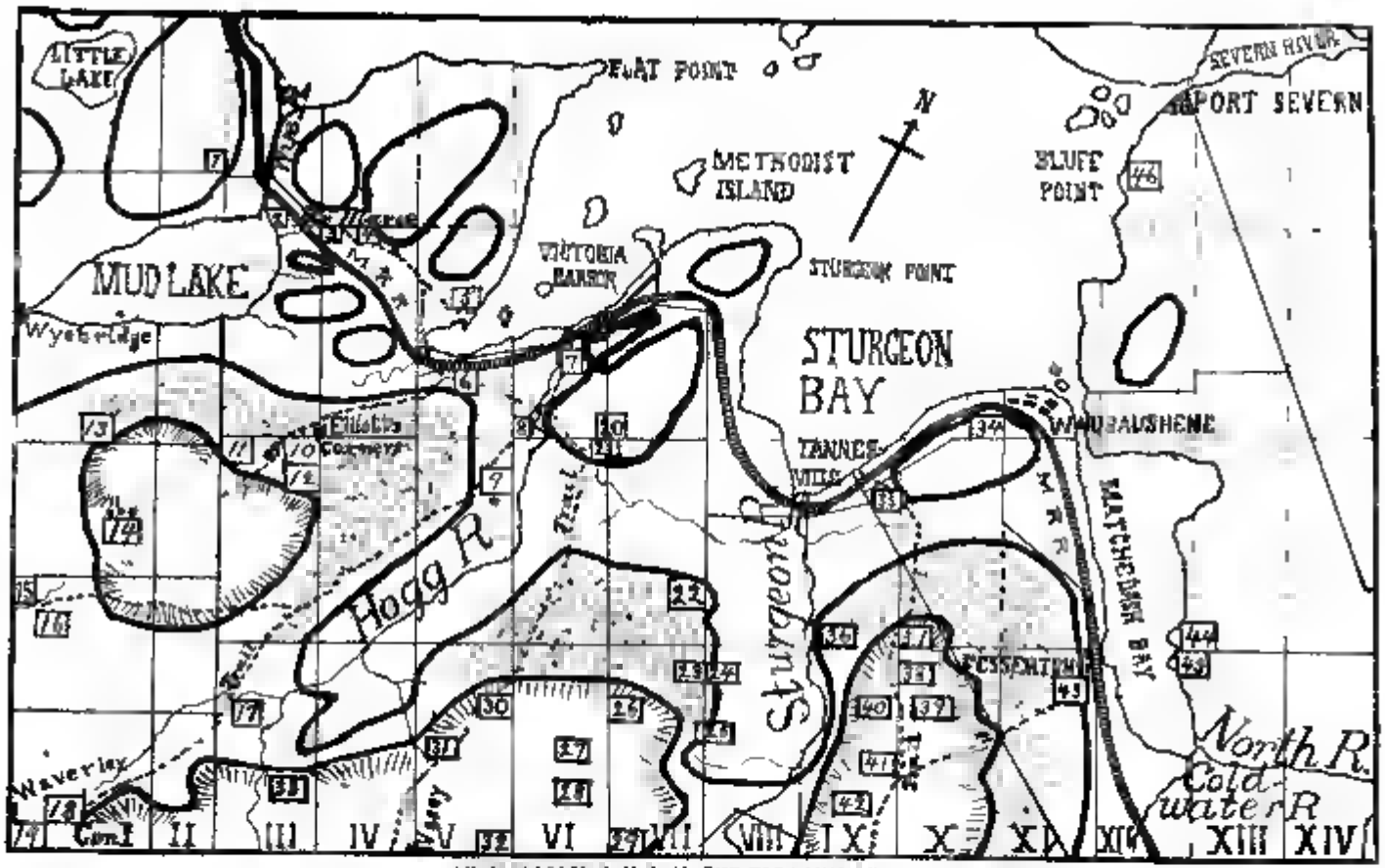
Notes on...

SITES of HURON VILLAGES

IN THE TOWNSHIP OF TAY (SIMCOE COUNTY)

By Andrew F... Hunter, M.A.



MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF TAY

EXPLANATIONS. The numerals opposite the various lots refer to the lots in the next. The heavy lots at Nos. 1, 11, and 14 delineate the hemlock. Dotted lines show the courses of forest trails (in each generated). The three dotted lines show the position of boulder-stone belts devoid of village sites. The heavy curving lines show the position of two ancient beaches, and those give the altitude of the land: (1) the higher or Algonquin beach is hinged internally to show the high ridge (2) the lower or Nipissing beach. Swamps are shown as dotted lines.

NOTES ON

SITES OF HURON VILLAGES

IN THE

TOWNSHIP OF TAY (SIMCOE COUNTY).

BY ANDREW F HUNTER M.A.

(AN APPENDIX TO THE REPORT OF THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION)

TORONTO
WARWICK BROS & RUTTER 68 AND [illegible] FRONT ST. EAST WEST
1900

PREFACE

In the preparation of the following Report it did not appear necessary to change the plan adopted in my similar report on the archæology of the Township of Tiny issued by the Education Department last May. By following in the main the same method viz putting the notes into the form of a catalogue of the village sites the one becomes a continuation of the other and they may be preserved together by students of the history and archæology of our Province. Separate copies of this Report on Tay have been prepared for the use of those who received my former report on the Township of Tiny.

A. F. HUNTER.

Barrie Ont. November 1899

INTRODUCTION

Physical Features of Tay

Like the adjoining township of Tiny the surface of Tay consists mainly of parallel ridges with rivers between them. There is this difference however: in Tiny most of the ridges lie entirely within the township but in Tay only the ends are found. One of them crosses the boundary into Tiny the other two pass southward into Medonte. For convenience I will call the former which lies between the Wye and *Hogg rivers the Victoria Harbor ridge because it ends near Victoria Harbor. The next one lying between Hogg and Sturgeon rivers will be called the Vasey ridge from the name of a village upon it. And the most easterly ridge between Sturgeon and Cold water rivers will be named the Rosemount ridge from the name of the schoolhouse on its summit. Those parts of the township which lie east of Matchedash bay are rocky—Trenton limestone and Laurentian granite.

For showing the altitude of the land I knew of no plan equal to mapping the abandoned beaches. This method has a very important advantage: a person can note by direct observation the lines of equal altitude in these extinct shorelines without going to the trouble of making a detailed survey by the use of levelling instruments. Accordingly I have observed their positions throughout the township noting the farms in which they appear, and I give the results of these observations in the accompanying map.

The highest of these old shorelines is the Algonquin beach which has an altitude of about 250 feet above the present level of Georgian Bay. It is a stupendous freak of Nature—an indelible mark on the face of the country—representing the expenditure of an immense amount of force by strong waves in the removal and assortment of materials. The Algonquin Sea that formed it washed away such quantities of movable material (clay, sand and gravel) from the exposed northerly ends of the ridges that large tracts of boulders are left. It picked the bones of the ridges as it were and left them bare. A large tract of this kind lies immediately south and east from Elhett's Corners and similar tracts occur on the Vasey and Rosemount ridges. No Huron village sites occur in these uninhabitable stony tracts.

About 100 feet lower is the main beach of the Great Nipissing series or about 150 feet above Georgian Bay. To give all four beaches

*I am informed that this river is so called from an early Methodist preacher among the Ojibways.

of this Nipissing series would make a complicated map and would involve endless and unnecessary work So I have mapped only the most strongly marked one of the series The name "Great Nipissing" has been given by geologists because the outlet of this great lake to the sea, before the birth of Niagara river was by the present and lesser Lake Nipissing and French river

At the ends of the above mentioned ridges there were islands standing out from the mainland in the Great Nipissing sea or lake. One of the largest of these extinct islands lies in a southeasterly direction from the outlet of Hogg river and is a tract of isolated high ground covering an area of 500 acres or more. Before the forest was cleared away these extinct islands were separated from each other and from the ridges by thickets

The advantages to the study of the subject gained by introducing these references to the old lakes and beaches consist merely in the ease with which they give the altitude of the land throughout Tay and thus elucidate its physical features They have no connection with Huron occupation except in so far as village sites are often found near the springs that issue along those old lines. The heavy curving line in the map denotes the Great Nipissing beach that with fringe internally showing the hills in the Algonquin

The roads and road allowances are marked on the map so that the reader can adopt a scale for any measurements he may require In that part of the township called the Old Survey which consists of Concessions One and Two the sideroads are placed at every fifth lot, and are a mile and a quarter apart (100 chains) The lots in the First Concession are a mile and a quarter deep but those in the Second have a depth of only one half of that amount Concessions Three to Fourteen make up the New Survey These are five sixths of a mile wide ($66\frac{2}{3}$ chains) and have sideroads at every fifth lot or a mile and seven eighths apart (600 rods) Bearing these measurements in mind, a reader may readily calculate any distance The lots are numbered from the south in both old and new surveys The upper corner of Tay is omitted from the map but will be found in our Report on the Township of Tiny

Altogether I will give descriptions of forty-six sites The plan of proceeding will be to begin at Mud Lake and proceed southerly and easterly through the township

The Village Sites.

The village sites described are only those known to the writer up to this date without any claim to completeness which in the present state of the subject would be impossible Much sameness will be

mund in the descriptions of these especially the villages upon the higher ground of the Vasey and Rosemount ridges. Some readers may be ready to censure me for this apparent defect but the fault is not mine. There would be variety enough if farmers and others had noted facts with more minuteness than they have done. But as a rule they have observed only the most general features. Hence the sameness in the descriptions is due to the character and present stage of advancement of the subject with which we have to deal.

Some of the so called villages especially those on the lakeshore have been mere camping grounds where successive generations of Hurons and other sedentary tribes of the interior camped from time to time when on fishing and other expeditions and such places now have the appearance of villages. These lakeshore villages after being Huron landings became Algonquin camp grounds the result being a mixture of relics on these spots that defies classification. Such places are found beside the sheltered bays and harbors along the shore while the inland sites (very few of which we have attempted to record) are quite recent and were chiefly used by modern Ojibways.

It will be noticed that only a few bone-pits occur at the Huron villages of Tay and these are confined exclusively to the Victoria Harbor ridge which doubtless was the abode of that Nation of the Hurons called the Attaronchronons. On the Vasey and Rosemount ridges there are bone pits though these are not in Tay but are found further south in Medonte township.

Still another feature is brought out in our survey of the township for village sites and if our collection of data makes any approach to being exhaustive the feature may be received authoritatively. This is the numerous distribution of small villages within easy reach of Sturgeon River sloughs sides of it. It appears to show that the river was a resort of the Hurons which may be accounted for by the fact that it was a good fishing ground. It has sedgy banks and accordingly was a favorite haunt of fishes of the pickerel and pike families as its name indicates.

The Historic Side of the Subject

In so far as these Notes have any historic significance it will be readily seen that their chief feature is our attempt to throw some light upon the positions of those early missions of which Ste. Marie was the centre and more particularly to find the village of St. Louis where Brebeuf and Lallemant were captured and also St. Ignace where they were put to death. Besides the Fort of Ste. Marie on the Wye partly protected by masonry and partly palisaded the villages numbered 4, 6, 8 and 19 on our list show evidences of palisading and from other con-

siderations these fem may be regarded as belonging to the very latest Huron period Other villages may have been palisaded likewise but these are the only enes of which I have certain evidence It will be most natural, therefore to seek for the palisaded villages of St. Louis and St Ignace among these four On the various points arising out of these questions however it is not intended to offer our suggestions as anything more than plausible conjectures.

One of the first persons to investigate the situations of the Jesuit missions appears to have been the Rev P Chazelle who visited the district in 1842 Some years later (in 1855) the Rev Felix Martin also made a tour of exploration in Huronia. It will be most suitable in this connection to quote from the brief account of this tour contained in a biographical sketch of this painstaking investigator

The aptness of Father Martin as an antiquary was known by the men in the Government and the Hon George E Cartier entrusted him with a commission to explore on the spot the site and the remains of the ancient Huron missions in Upper Canada near Georgian Bay By care Father Martin found the traces of the ancient posts of the Jesuits in that country where they had so many martyrs he collected many Indian relics he afterwards made a work embellished with plans and drawings the whole having been deposited at the seat of Government

The next investigator was Dr J C Taché who undertook some further exploration of Huronia at intervals in five years prior to 1865 Parkman in his works has quoted these archaeological researches of Taché and thus has given wide currency to Taché's views of the positions of the mission sites

It appears to have been Father Martin who fixed upon a village site on Fox's farm in Medonte township as that of St Ignace and in this belief Dr Tache afterwards examined the site somewhat minutely This early decision as to what place was the scene of the tortures of Brebeuf and his companion received while acceptance through Parkman's publication of this as the true position without any doubt. But it is certainly incorrect and the best informed students of the subject have refused to recognize the claims of Fox's farm as its distance from Ste Marie is much greater than the written descriptions justify

In Taché's time there were comparatively few sites known Since then however much new knowledge has been won and a solution of the problem of finding St Ignace as well as the other mission sites, has become possible It may involve more labor than the first investigator anticipated but reliable conclusions have become more attainable. This is chiefly due to the fact that the greater part of Tay has been settled since Tache visited the district The first settlers of the Vasey Ridge went there about thirty years ago those on the Rese-

mount Ridge about twenty five years ago We now learn from these settlers the characters of the village sites there They had no palisades and accordingly St Ignace was not one of the villages on these ridges Fox's site was chosen through the uncritical use of Ducreux's map which shows the St. Ignace of about 1640 For the purpose of clearly distinguishing these two places, it has been decided to call the one we are now seeking St Ignace II

Neither can Ducreux's map be taken as a guide for the St Louis of 1649 as it shows the position of the one of about 1640 Throughout the text of this report I have called the one of later date St. Louis II

As regards the distribution of the other mission sites as laid down by Ducreux I am inclined to believe that each mission marked a district isolated by physical features and whether we assume the villages in a group to have been contemporary with each other or to have been the same village at different periods each group of villages so divided physically seems to have had its mission The Rosemount Ridge for example would naturally be the care of one of the missions marked St. Jean and St. Joachim

The Forest Trails

The physical features also govern the courses of the forest trails which so far as I have located them are shown by the dotted curving lines on the map As one may also see from the map the continuous high ground, along which trails could be made makes its nearest approach to the Georgian Bay at the head of Victoria Harbor Here then, was the commercial centre of the Hurons as it has also been of later Algonquins. In other words the physical features of the district were such that Victoria Harbor became naturally the focus or centre of population the trails radiating from the head of the harbor in several directions inland along the higher ground It appears to have been this very centre the heart of the country that was smitten in 1649 otherwise the Hurons would not have so precipitately deserted their country after the capture of only two of their villages had these villages been of the ordinary unfortified kinds

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Amongst the results expected from the publication of this report it is hoped to correct a number of popular errors and wrong impressions that are unduly prevalent in the territory with which we have dealt. There is of course the usual tradition of buried treasures always to be found in connection with historic reports and in this locality it is even more rife than elsewhere Many intelligent persons

are impressed with the idea that treasures have been buried at these historic places whereas in reality there is nothing more precious to be found than chips of old brass kettles or worn out tomahawks But the belief in treasures is deeply rooted and in a few places it even results in reticence when information is sought and thus obstructs the course of guileless scientific enquiry As a rule however the farmers of Tiny as elsewhere have been extremely courteous while I was prosecuting my enquiries and it is hoped that the report will further stimulate them and others to observe closely the Huron remains in their respective neighborhoods

Of wide prevalence is the erroneous opinion that Fox's farm in Medonte had the site of St Ignace II where the two early missionaries were tortured to death by the Iroquois Father Chazelle's earlier choice of a site on Sturgeon River for St. Ignace has almost been lost sight of by the acceptance of the Fox farm theory But his theory of Victoria Harbor as the site of St Louis still lingers and with a slight change it becomes the truth The regarding of the human bones found at the site on Sturgeon River as the remains of Brebeuf and Lallemant is an opinion still current with a few of the older persons But the opinion that The Chimnies on the east side of Matchedash Bay were early French structures is now almost obsolete Such errors as these it is hoped will be finally eradicated by the perusal of these notes

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DESCRIPTIONS OF THE VILLAGE SITES ETC

1 Samuel D Frazers

On the east end of lot 101 concession 2 (Samuel D Frazer Esq owner) Huron camps have been found scattered over an area of five or six acres Mr Frazer has lived here since 1839 and has been a close observer in everything that has pertained to the aborigines as well as in other matters He states that cornhills were numerous near this site at the time the land was cleared These cornhills were of the large kind described in our Report on the township of Tiny page 13 Relics of the usual kinds have been found and also a few others less common among which was a discoidal stone measuring an inch and three fourths in diameter and five eighths thick slightly pitted near the middle on each side This was presented by Mr Frazer to the Provincial Museum and is No 16702 in the archæological collection Mr Frazer has befriended the science of archæology in other ways more especially by the presentation to the museum of a sword dated 1619 also found in this neighborhood The position of this village

doubtless indicates the direction taken by the trail that led westward from Ste Marie

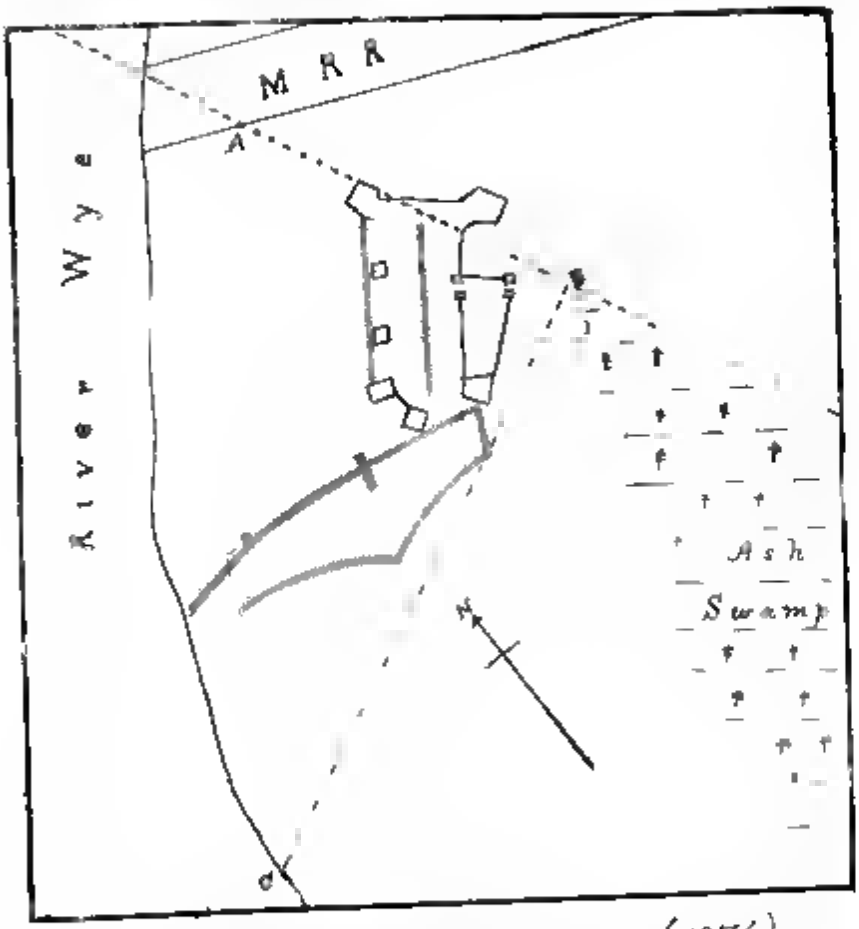
2 Ste. Marie on the Wye

The ruins of Ste Marie the fortified mission built by the Jesuits in 1639 and occupied by them for ten years may be seen on lot 16, concession 3. It was a stone fort and is the most noteworthy object of historic interest in Huronia though in its present crumbled condition it can be called only a ruin of a ruin

PLAN OF STE MARIE ON THE WYE
AS TRACED BY REV. GEO. HALLEN IN 1852

While preparing these notes I was favored by Mr Edgar Hallen of Orillia with the use of a plan of Ste Marie made in 1852 by his father the late Rev. Geo Hallen With his permission the annexed engraving has been made—a special favor that will be of much value to students of history generally,—as the present condition of the fort scarcely admits of the making of a definite sketch Although the small tracing of the fort in Father Martin's Montreal edition of Brossani's Relation was copied from this plan of Mr Hallen's it lacks a number of details given in the original sketch.

The author of the sketch wrote a note thereon that is worthy of our attention In the (easterly) Bastion is an instance of the flank of a bastion being curved with its convexity towards the interior of the work instead of being rectilinear The original sketch also furnishes us with means for the measurement of the dimensions of the



Plan of Ste Marie on the Wye (1876)
By Peter Burnett, P.L. Surveyor
AB is the line between east and west halves of Lot 16
BC is the northerly line of demarcation of an area in the west half, having a separate ownership

tort. The curtains on the two sides fortified by stonework are approximately 110 and 57 feet in length while the extreme measurements in straight lines along the same sides (i e including the widest reaches of the bastions) are about 165 and 110 feet. The distance from the fort to the river is 44 yards. The trench along the southerly

end is not continued in the diagram beyond the stonework but some have observed this to be continued in a southeasterly direction to Mud Lake thus giving double access for water coming into the trenches. In the event of a siege if one course should be stopped the other might be kept open

As every observer will invariably record features that do not "strike" another observer acting independently it may be interesting to compare Mr Hallen's plan with one made by Peter Burnet P L. Surveyor who sketched the place in 1876 The latter plan which also belongs to Mr Edgar Hallen includes all the environs on the west half of lot 16 but we reproduce thereon only the fortification itself

It is not my intention to give an extended description of the fort here as it has often been described in accessible books. I will add a few bibliographical notes for the guidance of those readers who may wish to pursue the subject further The carefully prepared description by the Rev Felix Martin in his Life of Jogues is worthy of the reader's attention as he visited the place in 1855 when the fort was in a more complete condition than it is in at present

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The notes on Ste. Marie, at pages 18 and 19 deal chiefly with its present condition

Bressani F J Relation Abregee (Montreal 1852 Edited by the Rev Felix Martin)

Has various reference to Ste Marie. It contains also at page 333 some notes by Father Martin on the ruins of Fort Ste Marie with a small plan of the fort.

Charlevoix, Francois X de History and general description of New France

In Book VII there is a description of Ste Marie

Harvey Arthur, and Alan Macdougall Forty third Annual Report of the Canad Institute Transactions 4th series Vol 3 1892

A reference to the excursion made to Ste. Marie on Sept. 28 1891 mentions the features of the fort recognized on that occasion including the "water gate"

Hunter A F Note on Ste. Marie on the Wye [Burrows' Reissue of the Jesuit Relations (R. G Thwaites Editor) page 269 Vol. 19 with sketch map at page 270]

Lalemant Jerome. Relation de ce qui s'est passé en la mission des Hurons (June 1639 to June 1640).
Chap. IV De la residence fixe de Sainte Marie.

Martin, Rev Felix Life of Jogues Appendix A. contains a carefully written description of Ste Marie which Father Martin visited in 1855

Parkman Francis Jesuits in North America
In Chap. 25 there is a lengthy description of Ste Marie

3 John McDermitt's

Remains of a few camps have been found on the northwest corner of John McDermitt's farm the west half of lot 15 concession 4 The indications are that this was a small village having no palisades —the few scattered lodges having been placed there because of some springs The position shows the probable route taken by the Huron trail that led from Ste Marie eastward This lay along the south edge of some elevated ground (islands in the extinct Great Nipissing Lake)— the district immediately south of this trail having been occupied in Huron times by hummocks surrounded with thickets and by small streams flowing into Mud Lake the ground there being accordingly unsuitable for much travelling

4 The Probable Site of St Louis II

At another part of Mr McDermitt's farm (lot 15 concession 4) there is a much larger accumulation of blackened soil and ash beds, mixed with relics. The site is near the line between the west and east halves of the lot but a little way into the east half It is situated on a hill almost if not quite surrounded by low ground and on account of occupying such a position it is evident *prima facie* that the village had been palisaded From this place to Ste Marie the distance is about a mile Just west of the site rise some springs from which the

village had been plentifully supplied with fresh water. One man while ploughing on the site a few years ago found an earthen pot (which broke on being disturbed) and in it were six iron tomahawks. Northward from the village there was a graveyard containing a few burials, which so far as observed were of the isolated or single type. The skeleton of a person of very large proportions was found among these. Angus McDermitt, a brother of the landowner, counted twenty lodges at the site, the ashbeds of camp fires etc. being in some places as much as three feet in thickness.

It is probable this site is that of St. Louis II, the second village taken and burned by the Iroquois in March, 1649, and the one at which the Jesuit missionaries Brebeuf and Lallemant were captured, being led thence to St. Ignace where they were put to death. Among the considerations that lead up to this conclusion are the following —

(*a*) The size estimated by Mr. McDermitt, viz. twenty lodges (reckoning the usual number of four or five families to every lodge), would be nearly the size of St. Louis as recorded by the Rev. Paul Ragueneau. According to that chronicler, about 500 Hurons had forsaken the place at the first alarm, leaving 80 warriors to fight the Iroquois.

(*b*) It was on the only route from Ste. Marie eastward to Victoria Harbor, the commercial centre of the Huron horticulture. As we pointed out in our description of the preceding site, the ground immediately south of this trail was not suitable for travelling, and so far as it has been examined it yields no traces of villages or trails.

(*c*) The relics found at this place are of such kinds as to show that it was a village of the very latest period of the Huron occupation of the district. The existence of palisading also tends to prove the same, because farther back in the country the Huron villages of earlier date seldom had palisades. Of all the fortified villages belonging to that latest period yet found, this is the nearest to Ste. Marie.

(*d*) As to the distance of St. Louis II from Ste. Marie, a little apparent diversity in the evidence furnished by the records confronts us. Ragueneau gives us the distance as not more than a league (two miles and a half), but Regnaut explicitly makes it much less. The latter writer uses the name "St. Ignace" (really applied to the mission among all these villages, as Ragueneau also tells us) for the village to which the two missionaries had set out, and does not mention the name St. Louis. He gives the distance as "a short quarter of a league" from Ste. Marie. The site under consideration therefore is not at variance with the conditions prescribed by either writer.

(*e*) Wherever situated, it is a fact that St. Louis II could be seen from Ste. Marie, as all the writers agree in stating that those in the

fort could see the burning of the village. This furnishes a well-authenticated test. From observations made upon the ground I found that looking eastward from Ste. Marie the only place where spectators could see a fire in the distance was at this very site. A small tract of elevated ground, rising out of evergreen thickets closes the view from Ste. Marie toward the southeast and disqualifies the sites further along the trail at the head of Victoria Harbor from being the place we are seeking. It is quite true that in a southerly direction had there been a conflagration at site No. 10 on the high ground of the interior it might have been seen from Ste. Marie across the edge of Mud Lake; but No. 10 as well as the adjacent sites Nos. 11 and 12 connected with it although regarded by some as St. Louis II. have failed to satisfy other conditions.

This discussion of St. Louis II would be incomplete without some references to the views held by others in regard to its position.

Father Chazelle who visited the locality in 1842 appears to have been the first to form any opinion on the subject. A fishing village at the mouth of Hogg River (No. 7) the landing place for the villages of the interior was the only site then known in its neighborhood and he fixed upon it as the site of St. Louis II. Father Martin and other enquirers followed him in holding this opinion. This however was determined in accordance with the diagram of Huronia in Dunrenx which as they failed to perceive shows the earliest position of St. Louis as we have already pointed out in the introduction.

Others have regarded the site No. 10 as the place. This opinion however seems to have been the result of the finding of a very large boneipit there suggesting to the popular mind that a massacre had taken place and recalling the fight at St. Louis II. To those who understand how a boneipit was formed among the Hurons viz. by the accumulation of human bones for a period of several years the finding of this pit proves exactly the opposite of a massacre. In fact it furnishes a good proof that the site was occupied in time of peace and was not St. Louis II. In other respects also the site forbids the idea that it was the captured village.

Again the site on the Evans farm (No. 6) has presented some probable indications and the reader is referred to our description of it for fuller particulars. But a strong objection to the Evans site lies in the fact that it was hidden from Ste. Marie behind some high ground.

5. Neys.

On the west side of Victoria Harbor some aboriginal remains have been found on lot 14 concession 5. These remains consisted of the

usual pottery fragments and other relics in ashbeds Many caches or empty pits are at the site There is also a patch of second growth trees—what is called an "Indian clearing" but this phenomenon may be partly due to the beds of gravel so much of which is to be found there that the Midland Railway has an extensive "Gravel Pit" near it. But it may also be at least partly due to actual clearing as the ancestors of some of the present Ojibway Indians at Christian Island are said to have grown their corn at this place and lived here It must also have been a landing place for the earlier Huron Indians.

6 EVANS

A Huron village site exists on the Evans farm the west half of lot 12 concession 5 at a short distance from the shore of Victoria Harbour and on the elevated ground of an old lake terrace It is now almost obliterated by the farm buildings orchard and garden and its first appearance when the ground was new is difficult to get correctly recorded But the late Wm Evans who first settled this place and whose family still occupies it gave Mr A C Osborne an account of what he found and to Mr Osborne I am indebted for the following description — "Mr Evans built his log house many years ago and in digging the cellar found about six feet of ashes Large clumps of cherry trees, remains of corn deposits in birch bark charred remains of palisades large numbers of tomahawks, knives stone implements and relics of various kinds were also found The site is admirably adapted for defence on one side only

From the scanty evidence that has come before me I have been able to conclude that this village although occupied during the time of the French traders did not belong to the very latest period It is not in full view of Ste. Marie and accordingly cannot be regarded as St. Louis II because the burning of that ill fated village could be seen by the spectators at Ste Marie

A short way to the southward of this village site the ground makes another abrupt rise the faces of the steep hills being covered with berry patches On the highest plateau was the corn patch belonging to the village This is situated on the northwest quarter of lot 11 Wm Maughan the owner has found many cornhills on his land There is an excellent view from this high ground overlooking Victoria Harbour and the more distant islands

7 VENTS

At the mouth of Hogg River there is the site of a village occupied doubtless, by Hurons as well as by Algonquins of later times as the

shore of Victoria Harbor was a favorite resort of Indians until within recent years. Its position at the end of a trail shows that it was a fishing village and a port of entry for the villages of the interior. It is situated on the east bank of the river on lot 13 concession 6 (Geo. Vent, owner). Pottery fragments were ploughed up here and other relics including two double barred crosses a large one and a small one. The crosses were found many years ago by one James Maloney while ploughing for the occupant of that time James Coyle, and were presented to the Rev. Father Chiarest of Penetanguishene. The site belonged to the earliest Huron period as the pottery fragments go to show, but the double barred crosses had a more recent origin probably in the eighteenth century.

This site has acquired some importance from the fact that it was known as early as 1842 when the Rev. Father P. Chazelle S.J. visited it in the belief that it was St. Louis II. This was an erroneous view as we have elsewhere said, but it was evidently due to the fact that there was no other site then known, and to the acceptance of Dacreux's map as a guide for the positions of the missions in 1649. It was however a close approximation to the true position, as the reader may infer from the facts as now understood.

By following the trail up the east bank of the river a little way the men with Father Chazelle found trees marked with Indian's blazes. One a large elm was marked with a cross probably to show the forking of the trail at the place. This was at the so-called Indian clearing on lot 12, shown in our diagram of the next site.

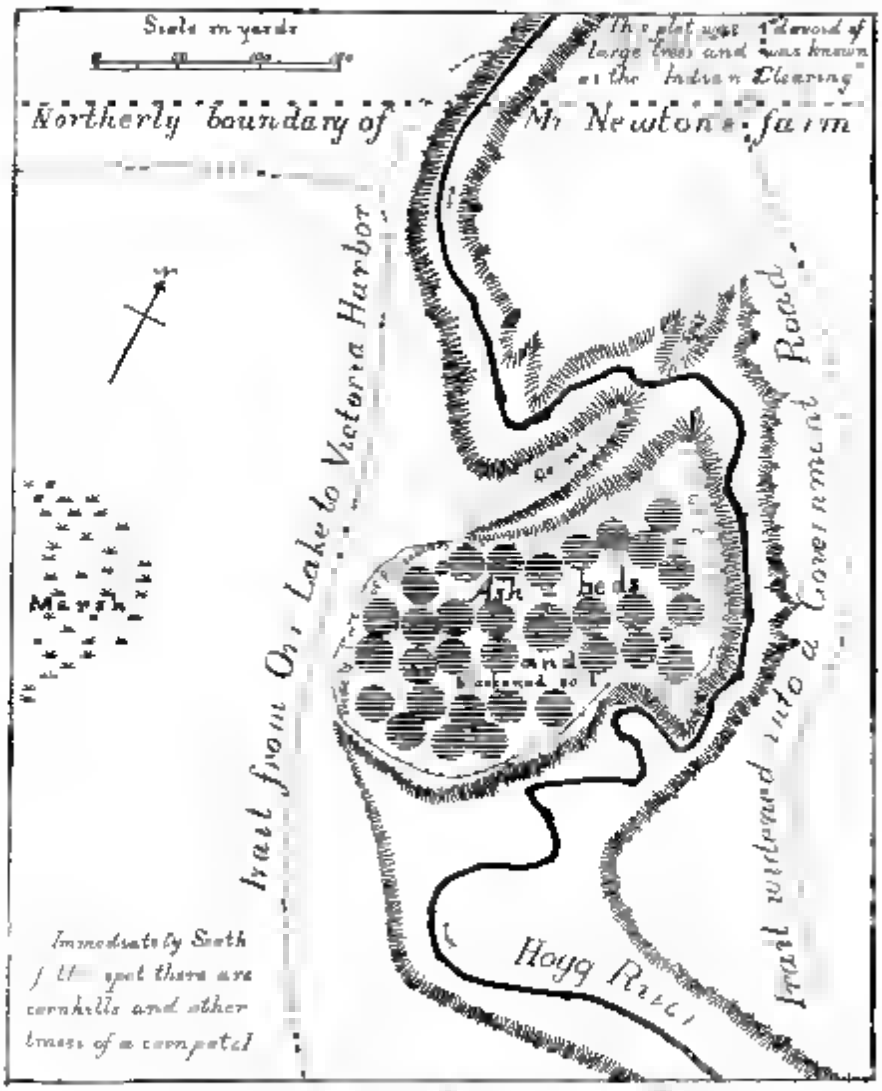
It may be of some interest to add that Father Chazelle when on this early expedition to Hogg River held an open air meeting (either at the Indian clearing or at the outlet). He preached to a concourse of settlers on the subject of the massacre of the early missionaries.

8. The Probable Site of St. Ignace II.

Through the farm of Chas. E. Newton Esq. the west half of lot 11 concession 6 the Hogg River has cut a coulour or path in the old lake bed deposits to a depth varying from fifteen to twenty feet. In this part of its course the river makes a loop something like the letter J which encloses an ideal spot for a village requiring means of defence.

Hurons selected for one of their villages this plot of ground containing four or five acres in the bend of the river. This ground is covered with ashbeds and blackened soil, mixed with relics. The latter consisted of iron tomahawks, knives, pieces of metal probably cut out of worn out brass kettles, and pottery fragments in endless quan-

ities. All these relics show that the site was one of those occupied down to the very latest period of the Huron occupation of the district. There are empty caches at the site and a pottery just south of it where the clay is of good quality for plastic work. Mr Newton has experimented successfully in making terra cotta from the same clay


Scale in yards
This plot was cleared of large trees and was known as the Indian Clearing
Northerly boundary of
Mr Newtons farm
Trail from Ot. Lake to Victoria Harbor
Ash beds
and
Marsh
Trail widened into a Government Road
Hogg River
Immediately South of this spot there are cornhills and other traces of a corn patch

THE PROBABLE SITE OF ST JOSEPH II AND ITS ENVIRONS
WITH PRESENT PARTIALLY CLEARED WORKING FARM OF MR NEWTON 1949

What appears to have been the village corn patch occurs near the house of Wm Bennett on lot 10 and it may have extended as far north as the site itself though the cultivated ground no longer shows any traces of the corn hills. From this site to Ste Marie the distance is 3½ miles

A trail comes from Orr Lake by the way of Waverley and just before reaching this place is divided into two strands one passing down each side of the river These meet again at the "Indian Clearing" on lot 12 which we mentioned in connection with the last site The trail down the east side as far as the "Indian Clearing" and thence to the mouth of the river was widened many years ago into a Government road now disused

It is probable the so called "Indian Clearing" is due to the gravelly soil which would not permit of the growth of trees rather than to actual clearing by the aborigines. But whatever its origin it was certainly a resort of the Indians, the fork in the trail having been here These trails were used by them until recent years when the erection of fences obstructed their course

The plot of ground in the bend of the river has been called the "Jesuits' Field" for many years but by whom it was so named is not known to Mr Newton. Nor has any enquiry so far elicited any explanation of the name unless it became connected with the place from the visit of Rev P Chazelle S J, to the neighborhood in 1842 as described in the account of the last mentioned site It is not evident however that he visited this plot on the west side of the river

This spot has also the usual traditions of buried treasure in even greater numbers than elsewhere if that were possible Thus the Rev J H McCollum rector of St Thomas Toronto who was here at the opening of the Anglican church in 1896 makes a reference to one of these traditions in his account of the place written for the *Canadian Churchman* —

"This happy valley was once the scene of terrible encounters between the Hurons and the savage Iroquois and in this valley the early missionaries to these unhappy red men buried the sacred vessels of their church to save them from destruction. The place is known as the 'Jesuit's Meadow' to this day"

It is probable this site in the river's bend was St. Ignace II the first Huron village captured by the Iroquois in the early morning of March 16 1649 and the place to which Brebeuf and Lallemant were brought a few hours later and there tortured to death Its distance from Ste Marie coincides pretty well with the records all the writers agreeing that it was less than two leagues (five miles) and about a league from St. Louis which in my opinion was the site at Mr McDermott's (No 4)

But the strongest evidence is in the configuration of the ground Rev P Ragueneau's account of the place (Relation 1649) suggests a

plan of the village and its surroundings and tells us beforehand of what appearances we may expect to find there. He says —

"It was surrounded by a palisade of posts from fifteen to sixteen feet high and by a deep trench (fossé) with which Nature had powerfully strengthened the place on three sides a small space alone remaining weaker than the others. It was through that part the enemy forced his entrance."

While this description of St. Ignace II will suit in some measure almost any palisaded site because these were as a rule placed on a spur of land the completeness of the fortification effected by Nature in this case was such as to attract the attention of the chronicler who wrote the description just quoted. After a diligent search through the sites of the district, I can find none that so exactly agrees with this description of St Ignace II. as this site on Mr Newton's farm

9 Hutchinson's and Taylor's.

A village site on the farms of John Hutchinson the east half of lot 10 concession 5 extends into the adjoining farm of Levi Taylor lot 9 In a field of twelve acres at the south side of Mr Hutchinson's farm he has found these camps chiefly along the foot of a hill against the face of which the abandoned beaches of the Great Nipissing Lake are strongly marked There is nothing in the appearance of these straggling camps to indicate that they had been palisaded The village was plentifully supplied with water a spring issues just north of what was the most thickly populated ground and the Hogg River is divided into two parts at the front of the farm, one part flowing near the site The ashbeds have yielded the usual riches An engraving of a clay pipe found upon Levi Taylor's farm is reproduced here from the Archæological Report for 1897 8 page 19 Some carbonized corncobs have been found among the remains and cornhills were visible when the land was first put under cultivation An aggregate of more than a dozen iron tomahawks have at various times been found by Mr Hutchinson in his field

A bonepit was discovered in the year 1879 on lot 9 (Levi Taylor's) near the boundary line of Mr Hutchinson's farm It measured about twelve feet in diameter and the deposit of human bones went to a depth of about six feet below the level of the surrounding ground. Deducting two feet for the vacancy at the top of the pit caused by sinkage leaves the thickness of the deposit at about four feet. The bonepit has been filled in and is now ploughed over A short account

of it appeared at the time it was found in the *Orillia Packet* of September 2 1879 and this was reprinted (though the source was not indicated) in the *Toronto (Daily) Globe* of September 16 in the same year Mr Hutchinson confirmed in the presence of the writer on July 5th 1899 the various particulars cited in this printed account The pieces of copper had probably been sections from kettles obtained from French traders The shape of one seen by myself was trapezoidal its sides being about a foot long and its parallel ends two and four inches respectively Two or three skulls taken from the pit had round holes in them We reproduce here the original description exactly as it appeared in the newspapers above mentioned —

"While logging on lot 9 concession 5 Tay Mr John Hutchinson and Messrs G H and Hugh Mills discovered a large grave containing they suppose in the neighborhood of two hundred bodies They opened the grave and obtained two tomahawks bearing a French stamp four pieces of copper each resembling a sole of a boot of different sizes and wrapped in buckskin which is still fresh and strong one clay tobacco pipe and parts of two sea-shells one in fair preservation The bones are those of people much above the present ordinary stature The searchers saw a few children's remains but these were not in good preservation A large tree was growing above and had sent its roots down through the grave Mr Hutchinson finds many pieces of Indian crockery in clearing up his farm (lot 10)

Some camps that may be reckoned as part of this village occur on land of Wm Taylor the west half of lot 9, concession 5 abutting the farm of his son Levi His land extends over the hill already mentioned and it was on the lower ground where these camps were found On the higher ground however near his dwelling house the point of a sword (ten inches long) was found in 1899 and from time to time iron tomahawks in considerable numbers As many as seven were to be seen at one time lying around the house

On the east half of lot 8 concession 7 (west side of Hogg River) there were formerly found a few pottery fragments iron tomahawks and clay pipes when the land was cleared

The scattered village that we have just finished describing may have been the mission marked Kaotia on Dutreux's map though this mission was more probably the group in the 3rd concession at lot 10 but so inexact is the map just mentioned that we can scarcely decide which place is meant The Rev A E Jones of St Mary's College Montreal has a wide acquaintance with the literature of the missions and makes Kaotia identical with St Annes (*Orillia News-Letter* June 29 1899)

10 John Houghton's

A site on lot 10 concession 3 at which two bonepits have been found has attained to more than ordinary fame. So many persons have seen or heard of one or the other of the bonepits here and mention it to enquirers that it has become the most celebrated among the many interesting sites of the district—a fact that is perhaps also partly due to the great size of one of the pits. It has been stated to myself that the first pit was examined by the late Dr Taché during his explorations of the remains in Huronia. Whether this statement be correct or not (which we have no means of knowing because Taché's work is chiefly unpublished) one of the pits was certainly known at an early date. It was often described as Errington's because that was the name of the first settler here it though it was not located on his farm. It appears to have been since the time of Dr Taché's alleged visit however that another large bonepit was discovered near the first the discovery of the latter having taken place in 1878. It attracted some attention in the newspapers at the time and one of the paragraphs (from the Oakville *Express* Nov 1 1878) we give herewith —

A large pit of bones has lately been discovered on (near) Mr W Errington's farm near Wyebridge in which to appearance were the remains of about two thousand persons besides brass kettles, beads pipes and other Indian relics. It is supposed to be in the vicinity of an old Jesuit fort St Louis where in 1649 there was a terrible struggle between the now almost extinct Hurons and the Iroquois.

The skulls in this second bonepit are said to have been arranged in rows. Among the articles found in it were a block of copper some copper kettles and braids of human hair. I visited this famous site on July 7 1899 and inspected the pit just described. It has a diameter of twenty feet and is situated on the southeast quarter of lot 10 the owner being John Houghton.

What was described to me as the body of a child was found in one of these pits (probably the first one discovered) wrapped in fur and placed in a copper kettle the oxide from which had protected the fleshy remains from decay. But this may have been only part of a child's body as descriptions are sometimes unintentionally distorted even by eye-witnesses. It is not improbable that it was the specimen that ultimately found its way into Dr Bawtree's collection and is designated Forearm and hand of a child from Sepulchral Pit.

There was a cornpatch at this site a portion of which may still be observed in the woods near at hand. There was a trail from here to Victoria Harbor and if there was another trail in summer leading in

a direct line to Ste. Marie the only passable route would be nearly where the fourth concession line is now located, and would cross at least three evergreen thickets.

It will be observed that the writer of the paragraph quoted above gives credence to the view that the site under consideration was that of the mission of St Louis II and the late Rev J W Annis a Methodist minister who devoted some attention to the Huron sites held the same opinion I am inclined however to regard this place as the one marked Kaotia on Ducreux's map And as a village had to be moved for sanitary reasons about every ten years the two adjacent sites (Nos. 11 and 12) would probably indicate the same village at different periods of its existence

11. Whether the campfires of the site just described are situated near the bonepits, or whether the marks of habitation there are only those incidental to the cornpatch is not yet clear It is established beyond doubt however that many ashbeds of camps occur on the west half of lot 10 concession 3 Wm Hanes the tenant has found many pottery fragments pipes stone axes and iron tomahawks the latter being numerous.

12 On the east half of lot 9 concession 3 there is a village site that shows some evidence of fortification It is situated on the level top of a hill or spur of high ground and was probably palisaded. Ashbeds are numerous and there was a refuse heap or mound in all of which the usual relics have been found The lot is owned by J D Carscadden Elliotts Corners and occupied by the family of Sylvester Campbell Midland

13. A village site occurs on the east half of lot 91 concession 1 Cornalius McCarthy an early settler in the district and the first person to settle upon this lot, being still the owner Stone axes iron tomahawks tobacco pipes, pottery fragments and other relics have been found at this site which was located at natural springs of water

14 On lot 87 (east half) concession 1, a village site is met with also a bonepit and ten or more graves or small bonepits. These were opened chiefly during the time of occupation of the late Anthony Latanville who was the owner of the farm for many years. Prof Henry Montgomery (now of Trinity University Toronto) writes as follows of a relic found here The piece of large copper kettle with beaver skin adhering to it, and which I donated to the University (of Toronto), was taken from an ossuary on Latanville's place This relic is No. 335 of the University collection The village site covers about three acres, and springs rise at it uniting and flowing into the Wye

River Iron tomahawks were numerous A piece of lead fourteen pounds in weight was found also bullets and a neighbor, Thos McDowell once found a gun

15 A village site occurs on the west half of lot 85 concession 1 Charles Elliott who now occupies the farm on which the next site is located (No 16) was formerly the owner here and during his term of ownership pottery fragments iron tomahawks etc were found Refuse mounds indicating prolonged habitation occur at this site which is near the stream belonging also to the next site but on the opposite bank

16 The village site numbered here is located upon the west half of lot 84 concession 1 (Chas Elliott owner) Pottery fragments tobacco pipes iron tomahawks and other relics have been found This site extends across the Penetanguishene Road into Wm McLellans plot of ground on which have also been found many iron tomahawks pipes etc At this site which is beside a stream two empty caches or hunting pits occur on Mr Elliotts land

17 On the west half of lot 4 concession 3 occurs a site but it does not appear to be so extensive as others on higher ground (George Simpson owner) It is located beside a stream that runs into Hogg River at a short distance from it They have found here various relics, including iron tomahawks.

18. A village of considerable size existed on the south west quarter of lot 77 concession 1 George Dawes is the present owner but many remains were found in the time of Robert Gorman the former occupant Two refuse mounds were formerly to be seen showing that this village had been a permanent one Ashbeds occur over an area of about four acres and they contained numbers of iron tomahawks glass beads pottery fragments pipes etc A stream rises here and flows into Hogg River just beyond the Simpson site (No 17)

19 Many relics have been picked up on the Bannister homestead lot 7th concession 1 These included iron tomahawks stone axes and pottery fragments indicating the occurrence of Huron camps. But whether these were outlying habitations of the last mentioned village site (No. 18) or a distinct site altogether I have not been able to decide When the land was cleared cornhills were to be seen on the east part of this farm In connection with the great abundance of

Huron corn patches mentioned so frequently in these notes I have observed that Indian corn at the present day matures with great rapidity on the fine sandy loam of this locality

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Various other sites occur in the immediate neighborhood of the Bannister farm but just beyond the boundaries of Tay township It is not our intention therefore to take notice of them here But the occurrence of some camps where many interesting relics have been found may be mentioned in passing These are on lot 76 concession I Tiny the farm formerly occupied by the Bell family A finely carved pipe having a representation of what was probably intended for a bear was among the relics found

20 South easterly from the mouth of Hogg River and standing out by itself is a tract of high ground on which some village sites are met with undoubtedly Huron in their origin One of these is on the west half of lot 11 concession 7 occupied by Joseph Belfry On this farm and near the site now under consideration there is a piece of land where no large trees had grown in the forest that formerly covered the place —in fact, just such a bare patch as we found at No 8 Some persons supposed that this also was an Indian clearing but in reality it was merely a gravelly patch where the soil was unfavorable to the growth of large trees The ashbeds here occupy a kind of shelf of land that slopes towards the north and they extend westward across the seventh concession line a short way into the farm of Sherman Beltry east half of lot 11 concession 6 On both farms the occupants have found iron tomahawks tobacco pipes and the usual fragments of earthen pots Where the concession line crosses the site I observed many of these fragments in ashbeds besides other evidences of Huron occupation As higher ground lies along the south of the camps and as their form is not compact but string like it is pretty evident that no palisading ever existed here It may therefore be concluded that although the village was inhabited during the time of French traders (as the tomahawks show) it was not occupied at the latest part of that period

21 On the next farms southward but separated from the last site by the slightly higher ground just mentioned the remains of an important village have been found. It is situated on the north-east quarter of lot 10 concession 6 (Edward Crooks owner) but also covers a portion of the south east quarter of the same lot (Wilson Crooks owner) Its position is on a high terrace with low ground along the south The remains have been found chiefly at the fronts of these

two farms near the dwelling houses and farm buildings Here they have found quantities of iron tomahawks tobacco pipes pottery fragments etc and cornhills in abundance were to be seen before the ground had been cultivated long enough to obliterate them These were especially visible when the first settler of this lot (William Hill) lived here During his time the ashbeds were quite distinct. This site extends across the public road into the front part of the farm of Matthew Campbell (west half of lot 10 concession 7) where they have found the same kinds of relics but the late George Mills the original settler on this lot found much more than has the present occupant Although this site covered considerable ground it is doubtful whether any palisading ever existed it not having been compact and lying adjacent to higher ground Its position agrees closely with that of the mission of St Louis as marked on Dupercaux's map which lays them down as they were about the year 1640, almost all having been shifted before the extermination in 1649

22 Traces of a village have been found on the east half of lot 7 concession 7 James Hamilton says was the first settler upon this farm, about eighteen years ago and when clearing the land he found ashbeds iron tomahawks and other relics

23 Another exists on the east half of lot 5 concession 7 William Hopkins the present tenant and William Hanes a former occupant have both found the usual pottery and pipe fragments iron tomahawks flint spear head etc The site is near a small ravine that drains northeastward to the Sturgeon River

24 Across the concession line on the west half of lot 5 concession 8 Arthur Loney the owner finds a few remains but this site is not large in comparison with some others in the neighborhood

25 Farther south on the same line a site of considerable size occurs at the adjacent corners of lots 3 and 4 where four farms meet When Albert Warden the owner of the west half of lot 3 concession 8 dug the cellar for his dwelling house here they found ashbeds of a surprising depth Numerous relics were also found including beads (native and European) iron knives and iron tomahawks, the latter in considerable numbers. Across the road in concession 7 near the boundary between the farms of John Morrison (lot 3 east half) and Robert Lochart (lot 4 east half) were some refuse mounds And in the adjoining corner of Patrick Canavan's land (southwest quarter of lot 4 concession 8) a few relics have been picked up It is estimated that the camps here covered about fifteen acres altogether situated, as in so many other instances upon an old lake terrace

26 Another village occurs on the land of Andrew Brown west half of lot 4 concession 7 A spring issues near this site and drains to the Sturgeon River The occupants have found stone axes or skinning stones and other relics Large numbers of French iron tomahawks have been found especially during the time of the first settler John Mead It is related how the roof of his shanty was the receptacle for these relics and was sometimes covered with them fifty or more lying upon it at one time Some scattered relics similar to these have been found on the opposite farm across the concession line

27 When the east half of lot 3 concession 6 was cleared about thirty years ago the first settler upon it—Matthew Campbell—found relics (including iron tomahawks) indicating the site of another village A few were also found on the farm of his brother the late John Campbell across the road but not in sufficient numbers to indicate any site William Albert Campbell a son of the first settler now occupies lot 3 in question There is lower ground on the rear of the farm where water could be had the drainage flowing toward Hegg river

28 Following the same concession line southward one finds the site of another village on the next farm east half of lot 2 concession 6. The owner Hector McLeod found the camps named in the southwest part of his farm and they were strewn with various relics such as pottery fragments pipes, iron tomahawks, etc Thomas his son found a large European bead which he sent to the museum It is a large coarse glass bead with hues of red white and blue in a scallop pattern The water drainage at the place runs southward and then around to Hegg river passing westward about lot 22 in Medonte The site is not large in comparison with others.

29 On the west half of lot 1 concession 7 (John A Swan owner) is another Traces of it were formerly quite distinct on the high ground behind the farm buildings and many relics of the usual kinds were found at various times—stone axes iron tomahawks tobacco pipes (both clay and stone) and pottery fragments Mr Swan settled here in 1870 and in the earliest years of his term of occupation corn hills were distinctly visible west of the camps but these hills have been obliterated by frequent ploughing In connection with this site it should be mentioned that a large bonepit was discovered in the year 1869 on adjoining land across the townline in the township of Medonte It is not yet evident whether this bonepit was connected with this site or with another farther south but it is not too far from this one to have belonged to it being only about seventy rods distant from the townline in front of Mr Swan's residence

30 There is a site on the farm of James Russell, east half of lot 4 concession 5 and some relics of the usual kinds have been found at it but it appears to have been small in comparison with others There was a patch of cornhills near by and probably used by the inhabitants of this site on the farm of Wm Russell west half of lot 3 concession 6 though these cornhills have been chiefly obliterated by cultivation

31 The remains of a Huron village the inhabitants of which appear to have used the same position for several years have been found upon the west half of lot 3 concession 5 The first settler on this farm Robert Webb came in 1865 and remained on it until about twelve years ago As he was a close observer besides having resided here so long our information in regard to the site is fuller than in many other cases A noteworthy feature was the finding of a *cache* or hiding pit filled with corn The grains were as black as charcoal and the inference was that they had been charred or roasted But their black color doubtless arose merely from their great age 250 years or more being sufficient to carbonize any kind of seed The discovery of the corn is confirmed by Hector McLeod who observed it while ploughing The amount was estimated at more than two bushels. In the field south of the site many cornhills were visible when they cleared the land Beside the village a human skeleton was found buried Among the relics found were tobacco pipes of various kinds some with human faces stone axes iron tomahawks and knives pieces of brass kettles in great numbers. Since Mr Webb retired from the farm various persons have lived upon it either as owners or tenants Among these were Matthew Vasey and Wm Widdes, the present owner is George Jones During their respective terms of occupancy some relics were also found John Ashley Bailie who taught at Russell's schoolhouse in the neighborhood frequently searched here for relics He writes of the workmanship of the specimens as follows The pottery fragments were nearly all nicely carved the carving of course being of a somewhat rude type The pipes showed a great deal of skill upon the part of the makers their bowls were wrought in a variety of forms. In some instances they took the form of the head of some animal or bird One pipe stem judging from its appearance must have been formed by drilling a hole right through an ordinary stone A pipe bowl formed out of a common stone about two inches and a half in diameter had on either side of the bowl a head of some animal Mr Bailie picked up many little pieces of sheet metal probably from brass kettles. He says these were to be found in all parts of the field It would appear that when the kettles obtained from the French traders became useless from having holes in them the

Hurons cut them up by some means into chips and used the pieces as arrowheads knives etc. At some other village sites of the later period of French occupation the ground is also strewn with those metal chips In order to examine its position I visited this site on July 5th 1899 and made a diagram of it. The usual fragments of pottery and clam shells were to be seen. The ashbeds were most numerous at the head of a small ravine the abrupt descent to which is about 30 feet and here the inhabitants found their supply of fresh water in springs. Passing from this ravine, the ground rises gently through the field which contains about 12 acres but is not all covered with ashbeds. There is nothing in its situation to lead one to believe this village had been palisaded. When the Hurons built a village for defence it was usual to select a place where Nature assisted. But here Nature furnishes no aid rather the opposite. So it is not probable that palisades will be found. A trail has always existed here leading past site No. 30.

32 On the east half of lot 1 concession 5 there is a site where the usual relics—pottery fragments, pipes iron tomahawks stone axes etc.—have been found. Robert Hall the owner has lived here since 1873 and he has informed me that before the land was cultivated he could see the corn hills that were used by the Huron inhabitants of the village.

33 A small site occurs on the east half of lot 2 concession 3. This farm was formerly owned and cleared by John Finney who found previous to 1876 various relics including iron tomahawks. Among subsequent owners was Michael Russell and the present occupant is Hiram Jennett.

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34 Various remains found beside the shore at a spot just west of Waubaushene, indicate the position of what was a favorite resort of the aborigines in considerable numbers. It appears to be situated upon lot 11 concession 10. An area of about ten acres is the extent of ground over which remains have been found. The patch of second growth trees here was believed to show where there had once been an Indian clearance, but, as in many other cases it may be more correctly explained by the presence of gravelly soil. It was formerly a favorite resort for relic seekers some of whom dug into Indian graves of which some exist here. The graves thus molested were not communal but single burials. Some iron tomahawks and gun barrels have been found the latter tending to show that the site was occupied in the eighteenth century by Algonquins. But whether it was a landing place of the Hurons in earlier times is not yet evident.

35 Farther west at Tannecs Mill (also known as Tannerville) more aboriginal remains have been found It was at the shore here that the trail to the interior had its northerly end And in the days of early settlement (in 1830 or soon after) this trail was widened into a Government road from Coldwater and a blockhouse erected here The place was a depot on the way to the early mines of the upper lakes. It had docks and the early steamers of Georgian Bay made it a port for calls, the other port being Penetanguishene Altogether the port at Sturgeon Bay—the terminus of the Government portage—in the days before railways was a stirring place But its glory has long since departed Many legends cling around the old place and stories of buried treasures But the only articles ever found here so far as can be learned with certainty were a few Indian beads and fragments of human bones besides some other kinds of Indian relics These were found on the high ground just back from the shore. This place was always a frequent resort of Algonquins but its origin was doubtless earlier in Huron times when the trail to the interior was in constant use Ducreux's map places the mission of St Jean (not St. Jean Baptiste) to the right of the outlet of Sturgeon River and a short way inland. It will be seen by referring to one map that there is a tract of high ground here an island during the time of the Great Nipissing Lake and this tract is separated from the high ground of the interior by low swampy ground through which a stream flows toward Sturgeon River St Jean was a mission to the Attaronchronons while the mission next south of it (according to the Ducreux map), viz St. Joachim was among the Arendaronons. A physical demarcation of some kind between St. Jean and St. Joachim is thus suggested because the Huron nations were usually divided from each other by physical boundaries. It is possible therefore that St. Jean belonged to the isolated tract of high ground now under consideration and was a site near Tannerville if not the one itself if the place

36 Rev Father Chazelle whose investigations in the Huron country in 1842 we have already mentioned made a search on the east side of the Sturgeon River for the site of St Ignace where Brebeuf and Lallemant were put to death It is evident that in doing this he was following Ducreux's map which gives the position of the earlier and first St. Ignace and that he had not become aware of the fact that a second St Ignace had existed He directed the French Canadians with him to run the canoe up Sturgeon River a mile and a half from the outlet Near where they landed they found in the woods, a village site and at it some relics such as conch-shells. Here were blazes or marks upon trees made by Indians of comparatively

recent times but which lent an antiquarian setting to the place They found also in graves the bones of two persons, which tradition has erroneously regarded as those of Brebeuf and Lallemant forgetful of the fact that their bones were found by the searching party from Ste Marie in 1649 and taken to Quebec.

37 Passing to the high ground east of the Sturgeon River one finds the most northerly site of the group on the land of Frank Joseph the west half of lot 6 concession 10 Here on a patch of ground cultivated only during the past two seasons, they have found stone axes an iron tomahawk a tobacco pipe and some fragments of deer bones

38 Some ashbeds of Huron camps are met with on the farm of Alex Begg the west half of lot 5, concession 10 They have found pottery shreds pipes stone axes and numbers of iron tomahawks Southwest of this site which is not large there is a small huckleberry marsh it is on the opposite side of the road on lot 4 but near the site

39 A site of moderate dimensions occurs on the northwest quarter of lot 4 concession 10—the farm of James Stewart. On a patch of high ground toward the centre of the farm they have found pottery fragments, iron knives iron tomahawks etc. Similar relics have been found on the adjoining fifty acre farm or southwest quarter of the same lot 4 which is cultivated by Mr Begg and also a few on the east half owned and occupied by Robert C Stewart

40 Across the road on the east half of lot 4 concession 9 James Paden the owner has found iron tomahawks pottery fragments etc in ashbeds and patches blackened by Huron camp-fires These occur on the highest ground—a large knoll at the rear of his farm

41 A similar small site occurs on the east half of lot 3 concession 9 In the extreme southeast corner the usual relics have been found and a part of this site extends into the adjoining land of Joseph Greatrix where he has found the kinds of relics mentioned under the last site besides stone axes. On its north side this village was near another huckleberry marsh

42. Another site distinct from the one last mentioned is on the farm of Joseph Greatrix the east half of lot 2 concession 9. Mr Greatrix has lived on this farm for 29 years and has frequently found at the rear of it, the usual remains of camps and the same kinds of relics as occur at the other villages of this group

It will be observed that the six preceding sites on the Rosemount Ridge are small there being probably not more than a dozen camps at any of them, and there are no bonepits associated with them But on this same high ridge in Medonte township about a mile south of the Tay townline some bonepits have been found at larger villages It is but natural to suppose that as regards Feasts of the Dead and the formation of bonepits among the Rock Nation or Arendaronons the small outlying villages of this group would be tributary or subordinate to the larger villages situated farther south in Medonte The mission of St Joachim was perhaps in this group of smaller villages.

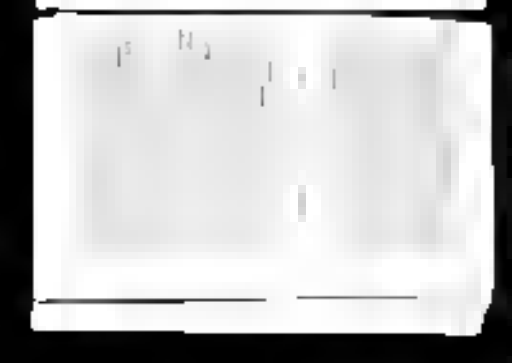
43 At a little distance from the shore of Matchedash Bay near Fesserton many relics of the aborigines have been found These were most frequently met with upon rising ground on the farm of George Bush lot 5 concession 12 and also on lot 4. Villages situated like this near the shores of the large lakes mostly yield relics which have undoubtedly belonged to Algonquins of a period subsequent to the Hurons. But in the present instance if the remains were those of Algonquins they must have belonged to an early period—before the traders had supplied them with kettles for cooking purposes—as is amply testified by the fragments of primitive pots made from baked clay so commonly found at Huron sites, and also found here At the projection of land known as Bush's Point some refuse mounds were formerly to be seen

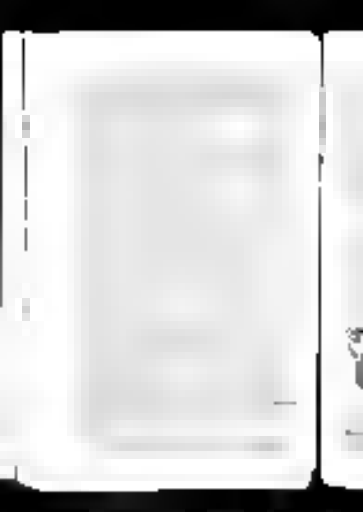
44 On the opposite shore at Matchedash Bay at Raukins Point on lot 6 concession 13 similar remains have been found Here by the shore were also found a few graves (single burials) in which the skeletons had been buried in a crouching position One of the skeletons was decked with a large medal glass beads and other trinkets done up in cedar bark and evidently belonged to a more recent period than the Hurons The same skeleton had unusually large proportions and the back of the skull was found fractured whether from accident or otherwise

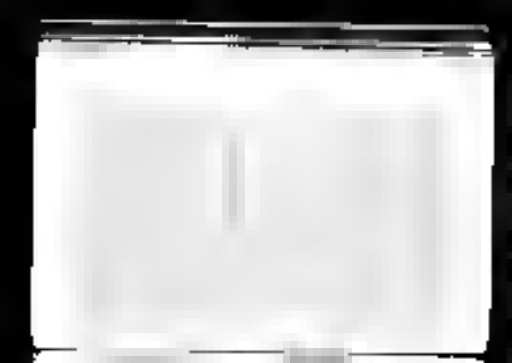
45 In a list of the antiquities of Tay, one should not omit to mention the remains called The Chimneys situated on lot 5 concession 13 opposite Fesserton or rather Bush's Point on the east side of Matchedash Bay Jas. Abbott is the present occupant of the farm The remains are located upon what is known as 'Chimney Point' where an area of about 40 acres had been originally cleared They constitute all that is now left of the buildings occupied from 1778 till 1793 and later by Cowan a fur trader The writer's purpose in ra

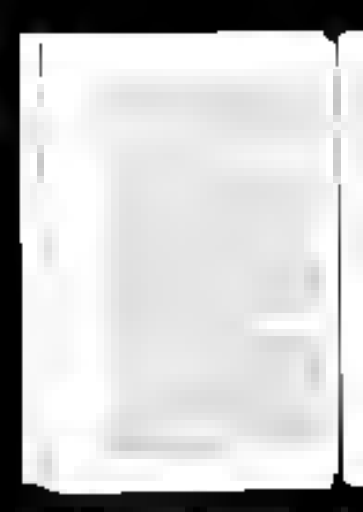
ferring to them in this place is because they were formerly often spoken of as the ruins of a structure belonging to the early French period Even yet they are sometimes referred to as such and it is desirable to give a few words of caution against this error Governor Simcoe was the guest of Cowan at this place in 1793 (See Macdonell's Diary in Transactions of the Canad Institute Fourth Series Vol I) On a recent occasion when the writer visited this place the foundation of the main building could be distinctly seen (built of stone and lime) and there were three chimneys grouped around this trading house —one apparently at either end of the building and another at some little distance away representing probably the bakehouse There were other buildings near at hand of which the foundations could be traced when Mr Abbott first went there

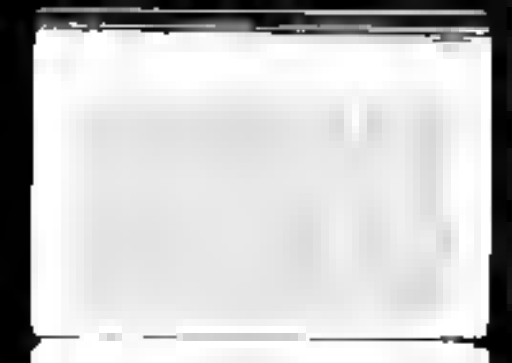
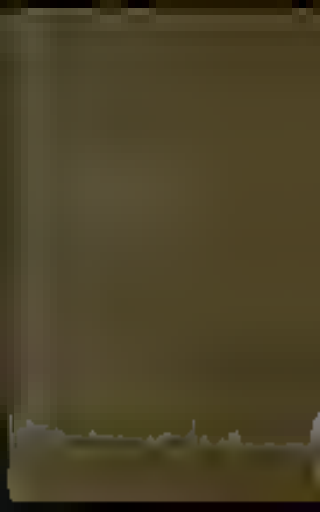
46 On Bluff Point near Port Severn some pottery fragments pipes etc have been observed No other relics have been found that would indicate the exact period to which this site belonged which was doubtless quite early as the coarse fragments of baked clay vessels go to prove







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